
Invincible Saint ~ Salaryman, the Path I Walk to Survive in This Other World~

– Book 3 –

Labyrinth capture and the truth that I didn't want to
know

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Synopsis:

One day, Earth's God of Destiny, and Galdardia's Chief God had a bet.

The God of Destiny lost, and chose ten mediocre souls to hand over.

To those ten souls, the Chief God of Galdardia handed them new vessels.

*And amongst those mediocre souls was one salaryman who fought against his
destiny of death.*

*How will this man grow from now on? Not the God of Destiny, nor the Chief
God of Galdardia, nor even the author themselves know.*

[Translated by: Tseirp Translations]

Chapter 27

Full of cheat equipments (In Luciel's eyes)

The next day after the mini uproar in the Adventurer's Guild, under tremendous cheers from the large scale expedition ceremony, the Valkyrie Paladin Corps began their journey.

I was surprised by the enthusiasm shown on the faces of everyone from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, but within the cheers I heard things like "Looks like it is Zombie-sama", "Looks like it is Masochist-sama", and "Looks like it is Deviant Saint-sama". Everyone stared at me from horseback with bold smiles as they left on the journey from the Holy City Schull.

"Even though I went to such lengths to tell them to stop using those nicknames. Oh well there's nothing I can do."

After sending them out of the Holy City, I went to the labyrinth after multiple meals.

Katria-san was already at the counter reading a book.

"Ah, Luciel-kun, good morning. You are late today."

"Yeah. I went to send everyone from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps off as I had been in their care lately."

"Ah~. So you'll be going into the labyrinth from today? Will you be returning at around the same time as usual?"

"No, I intend to dive in for a little longer. Because it seems like I am not that well regarded by the people around here."

"I can't allow you to do something so dangerous."

"Even though you say that but I only return to go back to my room to sleep anyway, my meals are also packed within this magic bag so you don't need to worry?"

"That is not the problem."

"I'll be fine. In the boss rooms once I defeated all the monsters as long as I don't open the door monsters can't come in."

“You will die if you get complacent.”

“Yeah. I have somehow earned some resentment due to me getting on friendly terms with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps so I wanted to disappear into the Labyrinth.”

“Ha~. If that’s the case then please return here once every week. The items you blackmailed from the Pope would have arrived here by that time as well.”

“Understood.”

“Don’t die okay.”

“Yeah. My motto is to not die and survive. I’m off then.”

“Take care and be careful.”

“Yes. I’m off.”

Like that I stepped into the labyrinth.

After chanting 「Aura Coat」, I ran through the first floor and destroyed the monsters.

After defeating them, I collected the magic stones into my magic bag by stepping on them and descended down the stairs.

I looked at the map and memorized the paths before steadily advancing and defeating monsters. By the time I reached the 10th floor boss room my stomach clock rang.

“Somehow I feel like I have amazing stamina.”

I purified the boss room and spread out the bento. After finishing my meal, I drank *that* stored inside my magic bag, rested for a while and then advanced in a similar method until the 20th floor.”

“Sei, Teiaaaaaa, Eh!? Shit!” 【By the hand of holy healing, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification】

Using a shortened chant, the MP consumption was larger than usual but I successfully defeated the Specter Knight.

“Fu~. My stomach feels empty so it should be around dinner time. Somehow, to have warm meals within the labyrinth keeps the heart at ease.”

I made a well balanced meal (or intended to) from the food bought from various places.

Following that, I drank Object X and fought with Specter Knight-sensei multiple times, purified the boss room with purification magic, applied Aura Coat and slept with a barrel of Object X placed nearby. *(TL: Lol he is using the barrel of Object X like it is insect repellent)*

“That’s a ceiling that I don’t recognize. Wait it’s the labyrinth. I don’t know how but I slept like a dead log in such a place, not to mention on such a hard floor.”

While murmuring that, I confirmed that the surroundings did not have any monsters and hence didn’t feel bad.

“Maybe because I applied purification magic to the place. Okay. After eating my breakfast and doing some combat I’ll go investigate the 21st floor.”

In that manner I ate my meal and only fought with Specter Knight-sensei once before starting my exploration.

“Even though it’s already frightening enough with the ghouls, to think that there are even mummies.”

I could still defeat them with just one strike from purification magic. As I lamented the lack of combat potential, I desperately investigated the floor that had expanded in size on an empty stomach before finally finishing my map on a slightly raised area.

“It’s about time I return.”

I returned using the shortest distance, right before the stairs I took out Object X and verified its effectiveness on the monsters chasing after me.

” ... Truly just what is Object X.”

The undead monsters maintained a certain distance and totally did not approach me.

After returning the ultra-versatile cheat item Object X into my magic bag, I ignored the approaching monsters as I returned to the boss room, fought with Specter Knight-sensei and had dinner, before I practiced magic and trained with Specter Knight-sensei.

Apart from getting hit in the vitals or getting amputated, I had confidence that I could heal over the illusion.

“Even though it is an illusion, if my limb gets severed it seems like there would be after effects.”

But this is a little strange for an illusion? No, because it is configured exactly like a game that’s why there’s no mistaking it, it’s an illusion.

With that, deep in thought, the 2nd day of exploration ended.

The next day I reached the 22th floor. And the day after that the 23rd floor. Even though I was terrified of my opponents, the exploration somehow proceeded steadily and so 1 week in this world passed thus I returned for the first time.

Upon exiting the labyrinth, Katria-san was already waiting for me at the shop.

“I’m back. Please purchase my magic stones.”

“Thank god you are alright. Also, it’s great that you returned after 5 days. New weapons, armour and also many valuable magic tools of yours were entrusted to me.”

“It was 5 days? Maybe my stomach clock went a bit haywire. Well it’s fine since the timing was just right.”

After that, my magic stones were converted into P and she gave an explanation for the equipments I’ve received.

– *Mithril Sword*: A common looking sword that is easy to channel magic into and if Holy attribute magic is channelled into it, it will display tremendous power against the undead.

– *Mithril Spear*: Easy to channel magic into and if Holy attribute magic is channelled into it, it will display tremendous power against the undead.

– *Antiheretical Shield*: A shield with Light sealed within, hated by those with Undead (Immortality) attribute. Possess high resistance against Darkness attribute.

– *Paladin’s Armour*: An armour blessed with divine protection given to all paladins when they are appointed. A cheat armour that possess high resistance against Darkness attribute, blocks off miasma, reduces gravitational pull (*TL: literally reduces/alleviates gravity not item weight*), regulates temperature and has self-maintenance function.

– *Sage’s Gauntlets*: Required MP reduced to 2/3 of original costs, magic power increased to 1.2 times.

– *Boots of the Earth*: Different from what's expected from its name, it is light and if magic is channelled into it, it will become even tougher than steel. It is a first-class item to the extent that if Fighters see it they will be green with envy.

– *Angel's Pillow*: It is told that if you sleep on this pillow you will experience sound sleep and your fatigue will be gone by the next day. Also, it pulses with Light which monsters hate.

” ... Apart from the weapons the others all have outrageous capabilities. Nevertheless, why were so many items assembled?”

“Because of the expectations on you. Well truthfully there are no healers that can equip these equipments. Looks like they were stored for the event when somebody like Luciel-kun who can capture the labyrinth appears.”

“Even so, can't items like the Antiheretical Shield and Sage's Gauntlets also be given to paladins and priest knights?”

“That is because there are conditions to equipping them.”

“Conditions?”

“Yes. Don't fret the minor details and try putting them on.”

“Understood.”

Thus I acquired cheat equipments.

“Ara, it looks good on you. Besides, I'm glad that it looks like you can equip them.”

“Truthfully, what are the conditions?”

“Erm. Apparently, to have defeated more than 1000 undead monsters, to have either Light or Holy attribute, and to have reached a certain amount of skill level.”

“Heh~ I see (What a convenient opportunity thrown my way)”

“Then what do you intend to do after this?”

“I'll enter again. Before that I wish to purchase some daggers for throwing purposes.”

“Mou. Don't push yourself.”

“Yes. Of course. In addition purifying the main room mysteriously makes the place settle down.”

“That’s not a great discovery. In the past many people’s physical conditions broke down because of the smell so be careful.”

“Yes. If I start feeling bad I’ll return.”

“Well then please return within a week.”

“Understood. Also regarding the equipment, if you by any chance meet with the Pope could you please convey my thanks?”

“Yeah. Okay.”

“Well then I’m off.”

“Yes. Take care.”

Thus dressed in cheat equipment, I ran towards the 10th floor boss room while defeating monsters and stayed over at the 10th floor boss room inn. The next day I once again ran towards the 20th floor.

The fact that within the items received the one I was the most happy about was the Angel’s Pillow was my personal secret.

(TL: In my opinion, and foreshadowed by the chapter title, I think what Luciel got were unwanted equipment or reject equipment that were sugar-coated by Katria hahaha ... how they compare to other equipment we’ll have to wait and see.)

Side Story 4

Valkyrie Paladin Corps Captain Lumina

My name is Luminaria · Arc · Francis.

I was born into this world as the second daughter of an Earl's house of a certain country.

Brought up with tenderest care, at the age of 9 I was selected as a bride for the son of a Marquis house belonging to my father's faction.

At that time, apart from when I studied decorum and the way of the country, I was a quiet child who loved to read.

Usually at the age of 15 one is recognized to have grown up from a child into an adult through a coming-of-age ceremony, but for aristocrats it was different.

That's because the direction for our education was decided from young.

And just like that my life changed drastically. The coming-of-age festival began. *(TL: Her coming-of-age festival was at a younger age than 15 because she was an aristocrat)*

During the ceremony to elect my job, praying to the chief god Kuraiya-sama, I chose to be a paladin.

Paladins possess both Light and Holy attributes, or alternatively any other suitable magical attributes, and various status parameters experience a huge increase.

It is a higher rank job compared to the usual knight, healer or magician jobs.

Originally, only upon reaching level VI for the beginner job can one promote into a paladin through a selection ceremony conducted by a king, emperor or priestess, no, it might even require a second promotion above that.

However, I did not rejoice. Because I knew of the reality.

My parents showed delighted expression on their faces, but they must have been crying in their hearts?

The next day, I heard that my father cancelled my wedding and my parents no longer involved themselves with me any more than necessary.

At the age of 15 a paladin is forced to choose between serving the country as a knight or becoming a paladin in the Saint Schull church headquarters. But I didn't have an option.

I no longer had the choice of becoming a knight for the country after I smeared mud on the Marquis's name. *(TL: The original text was 'paladin' instead of 'knight for the country' but I'm pretty sure it's a typo)*

Decorum training was replaced by martial arts training, the time for handicrafts and drawing was replaced for horsemanship, the books for me to read changed from story books to magic spell books.

And then at the age of 14 I was kicked out of the house and assigned to Saint Schull's Paladin Corps.

I had read stories regarding heroes, brave warriors *(TL: Yuusha)*, priestess, sages and paladins since a long time ago.

Although not to the point of being virtuous, I had high aspirations and was committed to serving the people.

Even though I had been disinherited, like those paladins that appeared in the stories, I strove to live nobly like my parents.

However, in reality the church was a sloppy organization.

Getting by with bribes, being called scrooges, using force to obtain gold and crushing everything that offends them.

It was a den of devils in which evil spirits dwelled.

I wept because of the overwhelming horrors.

However, the position of paladins was far above that of healers and also above that of priest knights.

I swore to polish myself through training. Ten months later I welcomed my coming-of-age ceremony and the gods bestowed upon me a special eye.

I could see magical power through that eye. I named it the Magic-coloured eye.

I could determine a person's magical power aptitude as well as their characteristics with it.

That eye was not coloured differently and I never told anyone else about it.

To get used to the eye I desperately trained.

At the age of 18 I was called out by the captain of the Paladin Corps, Catherine · Frena.

“Come with me.”

“Yes!”

I was brought to the Pope's room.

“Catherine, are you really retiring?”

“Yes. For the injustice by the paladins, as captain I must take the blame.”

“But I have already sent the manipulators into the labyrinth.”

“Doing that does not rid the church of its purulence.”

” ... ”

While listening to the conversation, I felt startled by the statement that Catherine-sama was retiring.

Even though my name is Luminaria, when I came to the church I changed my name to Lumina.

That also happens during a situation when 2 people have the same name, but when I entered the church I lost my name.

Well I lost my name because I was disinherited.

Catherine-sama was the reigning leader of the Knight Corps made by gathering both paladins and priest knights.

With the same standing as bishops, it was easier to count the number of people with greater authority than her.

Due to her enormous achievements, she was appointed a new surname name by the Pope. *(TL: Pope's surname is Fluna, hers is Frena)*

My head was in turmoil from the information that *that* Catherine-sama was retiring.

“With that, I hope that you can help me with something.”

“What is it? I will allow almost anything.”

“Thank you. I wish to divide the current members into priest knights and paladins.”

” ... Why?”

“Yes. There is a need for me to work in the shadows to hunt the purulence. And I wish to erode away the purulence without soiling my hands.”

“Fumu.”

“I am splitting the squad because there are not many people who can work in the shadows, and I want excellent talents like this girl Lumina topple her senior who only know how to lift their chins up just because they are slightly older. *(TL: ie. act arrogantly)*

” ... Okay, but how should I go about doing it?”

“Yes. I have already elected 3 priest knight and 3 paladins whom I trust.”

” ... Have you not told them that you are splitting the squad?”

“Yeah. Don't you think that only those who win the spot of captain using their own abilities can gain the confidence of those around them more easily?”

“By chance you mean...”

“Yes. I will conduct a tournament. All judgements will be made by me so I will not allow any frauds. In addition, everyone is in the dark with regards to the 2 squads that I chose to split them into just now.”

“Doing so will become a matter of survival for the church.”

“Yes. Because of that, I will wager my life to cut off the purulence.”

” ... Very well.”

“Lastly, if this Lumina becomes a captain, make it such that her squad is made up of only females.”

“Umu. Very well. I will await your results.”

“Yes!”

Thus I left the Pope’s room while still feeling confused.

“What is your intention? No matter what it is not certain that I would come out victorious in the tournament?”

“Fufufu. There’s no way you wouldn’t. Lumina just needs to participate earnestly. No, if this doesn’t succeed then the survival of the paladins and the church would be in jeopardy so do it seriously.”

“I ...”

“I know. About your kindness, about your cowardice, even about that eye. That is why I command you. Become the captain.”

“How did you find out about my eye?”

“When I was first assigned there was a person who had the same eye as Lumina. Your actions closely resembles hers, using the eye to see the colour and waves of magical power to anticipate attacks and dodge magic. Also when you use it too much you fall into a condition similar to magic depletion.”

“That person is?”

“No longer around. She, together with other knights were ruined by the scrooges.”

“Is that so.”

“Lumina, I beg of you. I do not know if it is possible to make the church become virtuous but lend me your strength to at least make it better.”

“Please stop that. I understand. I will give it my best.”

I was splendidly done in by the virtuousness of the bowing Catherine-sama.

One month later, as the captain of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, 5 people were assigned to my squad from the Paladin Corps and we patrolled various locations. 3 years later in Meratoni, with 10 people now in my squad, I met a youngster who although appeared cowardly, but he released waves of strong and bright magical power.

My name is Lumina, the captain of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, 4th squad of the prestigious Saint Schull church Paladin Corps.

Our main mission is to either terminate or supervise the church's enemies, be it human or monster, or people related to the church.

I heard that Captain Catherine ... now Katria-sama, was now in charge of the church's internal and external management and negotiations. *(TL: OMG Katria-sama?!)*

When I last met her a while ago, she had changed from a knightly person into a gentle woman.

Learning from the past Katria-sama, I began using a domineering manner of speech but the times I failed to do so was more.

After I returned to the church following my travels between various locations, I passed my report to Katria-sama but it seemed like there wasn't enough information to catch the frauds.

"If only there was a kid who could break through the labyrinth."

She complained.

Indeed currently the main job for Granhart-dono, who is famous for being stubborn but also trusted by Katria-sama, is to appoint healers as exorcists to make sure monsters do not come out from the labyrinth.

"Katria-sama, let us go capture the labyrinth together."

I suggested a way to eliminate Katria-sama's grief.

"Lumina, that is impossible. You all are not allowed to go, let alone me."

"Katria-sama, this isn't like you. You've cleared countless labyrinths before."

"This is the labyrinth of the undying. Only the so-called undead appears in this labyrinth."

Undead ... monsters that can move even though they are not alive. Indeed it should be extremely smelly.

” ... Don’t worry. We can surely break through it.”

“Do you know that until now, since the labyrinth appeared more than 50 years ago, there has been no records of clearing the labyrinth? At that time the paladins and priest knights were, unlike the current imposters shaking their legs but, the real thing? In addition the undead attribute uses Darkness magic.”

” ... Which inflicts a state of confusion?”

“Yes. According to the records, at that time there were many knights who lost their lives to friendly fire. So it will be difficult as long as there are nobody capable of defeating the undead, not to mention resisting Darkness magic.”

“Is that so. Such hero-like requirements ... To think that I was ignorant to so much, I’m sorry.”

“It’s okay. By the way this time there will be a new exorcist coming from Meratoni.”

“From Meratoni? But in the past, or to be specific about 2 years back, there wasn’t anybody with the capabilities of becoming an exorcist though?”

“I heard that that kid is quite strange, instead of working in a healer’s clinic he had been training all along in the Adventurer’s Guild.”

” ... To yearn to be an adventurer even though he received powers from the gods, what exactly is the Meratoni branch doing?”

“That kid, just after registering for a year his Holy attribute magic was already level V, he has been called as both a genius as well as a maverick. In addition, I heard that he has various other terrible nicknames.”

” ... About that healer, is he lanky and tall, a man with delicate features?”

“I don’t have information to that extent. Just that there was a report that when he registered with the Healer’s Guild he couldn’t even use 「Heal」 .”

” ... I know that healer.”

“Really?! Do you know what kind of person is he?”

“I remember that his magical power waves were very clear. Although I felt his cowardice, I also felt his vigour.”

“It’s rare to hear Lumina praise somebody to that extent.”

” ... I am only saying the facts.”

“I pray that that kid is good kid.”

“Shall I investigate?”

“That’s right. Since Granhart is in-charge, I’ll let you know too when he arrives.”

“Understood.”

More than half a year passed after that conversation.

“Well then, everyone go have your lunch.”

『Yes!』

I returned to my room.

Although the expedition schedule has not been released, due to the recent military strengthening by the Empire, my squad will most likely be dispatched.

While thinking about that, the magic communication ball lit up and I placed it on my hand to listen.

This is a splendid magic tool that can bridge the distance between the owner and the other person whose magical power was recorded.

《He has arrived.》

《He?》

《The boy from Meratoni we talked about before.》

《Ah. Is he heading towards Granhart-dono’s place?》

《Yes.》

《Understood. I will make contact.》

《Thank you.》

Thus I hurried towards Granhart’s place.

Seeing Granhart-dono's figure, I was shocked to see the youth walking with him. From the lanky figure he had in the past, he had bulked up to look like an adventurer, not looking inferior to the priest knight Granhart-dono alongside him.

While feeling shocked, I noticed that his magical power waves had not changed from that time so I called out while feeling relieved.

"Oh? You were the one I inducted into Meratoni city's Healer's Guild ... Louis-kun right?"

"Oh, long time no see. Lumina-sama. And my name is Luciel. Even though my physique has changed, it's pretty amazing that you immediately knew it was me?"

Somehow it looks like I remembered his name wrongly ... Well it doesn't look like it matters.

"Because the waves of your magical power is clear, I remembered it."

Ah, shit. I inadvertently said that I could visualize magical power.

"Thank you for your help in Meratoni. Somehow I became able to perform some novice treatment after this two years."

Luciel-kun showed totally no interest in my ability to see magic. Somehow I feel like I've lost.

"I see I see. I don't have time now so please come to my room later."

After informing him, I continued while mixing in something just for Granhart-dono's ears.

"Granhart-dono (Katria-sama has expressed interest in him) , please get somebody to guide him to my room later."

" ... Yes."

Granhart-dono's expression stiffened, looks like his acting sucks. Just like that I waited for him to come to my room.

Before going to my room, "Elizabeth, for afternoon practice I will pair up with ... that's right Lucy should be fine. We will join the practice a bit later. You guys please start training first."

"Yes, madam."

Elizabeth said and left for the training grounds.

“Lumina-sama, who will be coming over?”

“Yeah. Someone I got to know recently but not to the extent of being friends.”

After boiling water and finishing the preparations for tea, I heard a knock.

“Lumina-sama, it is Luciel who you met earlier. I came to visit you as soon as possible.”

I allowed him to enter. I thought that he had grown up from being ignorant as he knew to knock but when he entered the room he stiffened.

“Is something the matter?”

“I just came from a room with Granhart-dono before coming to Lumina-sama’s room, the difference between the two stunned me for a moment.”

If that’s the case I’m convinced. He would have definitely been brought to an interrogation room.

“Fufufu. No wonder. It can’t be helped if you came from that room.”

“Do you know the reason why I was transferred to this place ... to this church headquarters?”

Hmm? He had no idea? It should be fine to not keep this a secret from him.

“Yeah. In short, to receive a warning from Granhart-dono.”

“I see. Thank you very much for both this time and when in Meratoni.”

It was weird that he totally had no wariness. *(TL: The raw said that it was **not** weird but it didn’t make sense so I changed it to it was weird)*

“It’s fine. I had already received your thanks earlier. At the same time I’m bad with the formalities. Please be at ease.”

“If you insist. By the way ... ”

Because the water I boiled for the tea was going to cool down, I stopped him.

“First, have some tea and sit on that chair over there.”

“Ah, yes. Thank you.”

He smiled meekly as he sat on my chair.

[It's pretty stark huh~] I felt that he was thinking about that so I tried saying it first.

“You feel that it's stark right?”

“I'm sorry.”

What a lucky guess. Well it was neither a compliment nor does my room look like a girl's room. I unintentionally made excuses for myself.

“No it's fine. This is only a place for me to do paperwork and sleep. I'm not here the majority of time.”

“Come to think of it, I was able to learn 「Heal」 a week after we met in Meratoni. When I asked the guild for Lumina-sama's whereabouts to express my thanks, I was surprised when I heard that you had already returned to the headquarters.”

“In the end my job is one that requires me to move around quite a bit. Instead of that, this time were you summoned by Granhart? Or did you transfer over?”

“This time I received a letter of appointment for transfer signed with the Pope's name.”

I see. So that was how Katria-sama knew from the start.

“To be from Fluna-sama, it seems like Luciel-kun is considerably excellent.”

“No, it's a little different. Actually ... ”

He viewed the public opinion of the church not from the perspective of a healer but as a normal individual.

“Hmm. I see ... indeed. And so, what do you plan to do from now on?”

He most likely won't be involved in fraud but because he looks easy to deceive, I'm worried about his future.

“Hmm ... regarding that. The truth is, although I came over for the transfer, I completely have no idea what I am supposed to do.”

Ignorant as usual, no in this case it would be better to say he is indifferent.

“Most likely it's up to you. You can carefreely ... Speaking of which, you mentioned that just now Granhart-dono called out to you.”

“Yes. It seems like Granhart-san was called out because I used the Pope’s name.”

“If that’s the case, Luciel-kun’s work might involve a little risk.”

“Seriously?”

“Yeah. However, there’s no doubt that you can expect to have career advancement.”

Just like that I taught him the important points to take note with regards to the labyrinth. Of course, including the smell.

“Eh? Something like that is not a problem at all.”

However, I felt that when he said that it doesn’t matter, he was filled with motivation.

After he left the room I contacted Katria-sama.

《The target has left.》

《So how was it?》

《Hmm. Although he is lacking in some parts, in general personality-wise he has no problems.》

《... Do you think he can challenge the labyrinth?》

《Yeah. He gave me the impression of a fairly close combat knight.》

《Is that so? That’s interesting.》

《Yes. Moreover he already has the ability to use purification magic.》

《Then, within 2 years he raised his Holy attribute to VII?》

《Yeah. Maybe he is a considerable hard worker?》

《Understood. I will definitely meet him tomorrow so I will judge him as well.》

《Yes. Thank you.》

《If anything happens please help.》

《I understand.》

《... So rare.》

《What do you mean?》

《If you don't understand then it's fine. Well then Lumina, good luck with your training.》

《Thank you very much.》

I cut off the communication.

“There are even healers that temper themselves to that extent, we paladins will have to work hard too.”

Thus the second chance meeting between me and the healer Luciel ended with my motivation fired up.

I, Valkyrie Paladin Corps Lumina, came to the dining hall with my subordinates Lucy and Kuina.

The purpose was to meet with the healer Luciel-kun. No it is not for love.

Yesterday, Katria-sama contacted me to tell me that the boss residing in the 10th floor boss room was defeated for the first time since decades.

Of course, that person was Luciel-kun. However, according to Katria-sama it seemed like he was trying to capture the labyrinth in a considerably reckless manner.

She told me that and asked for my help.

That is why I was now waiting for when he would arrive.

“Lumina-sama, are we not going to the dining hall?”

“Indeed just standing here is ...”

Lucy and Kuina do not know about Luciel so it can't be helped.

Just as I thought that Luciel finally arrived.

“Luciel”

Lucy called out to him so I had no choice but to proceed to the dining hall together.

“Good morning. Lumina-sama, Lucy-san. Also, this is the first time we’ve met, good morning. I am Luciel.”

“Good morning Luciel-kun.”

“Morning.”

” Good morning. My name is Kuina and I’m assigned to Lumina-sama’s unit.”

“Once again, nice to meet you. Kuina-san. Is everyone on their way to breakfast as well?”

“Yeah. We always take our breakfast after we finish with our morning training.”

“I see. I was slightly later than usual today so we actually met each other.”

“By the way, it has only been 10 days but I heard that you are now being listed as a veteran as well.”

“Ah~ about that ... I’ve been reflecting on that since yesterday.”

“Fumu. If it’s alright with you, tell me about that. How about we have breakfast together.”

“Yes. By all means, please.”

Umu. With someone just 1 year younger than him, Luciel can speak more easily.

Thus I heard from Luciel about what happened yesterday.

“But I heard that your exploration of the labyrinth up until the 10th floor was going strangely smoothly?”

“Yes. It’s embarrassing but because I trained at the Adventurer’s Guild for 2 years, even after entering the labyrinth I somehow made do.”

“Was it the first time you fought with monsters.”

“Yeah. Up until now all I did was train.”

“If that’s the case then there shouldn’t be much points to reflect on?”

“Although I was nervous in the beginning, as I slowly advanced instead of purification magic, I channelled magic into my sword and spear, and I defeated them by cutting and stabbing even though there wasn’t any feedback.”

” ... What are your sword and spear rank?”

“Because yesterday’s incident happened it increased to II.”

” ... Previously you mentioned sword and spear but do you challenge the labyrinth by changing your weapons every day?”

“Eh? I wasn’t doing something so troublesome. Because I wanted to have more moves available I used a short spear with my left hand and a one-handed sword with my right hand.”

” ... Is that so. Please continue.”

“Yes. For the record, after my exploration to the 10th floor ended after 10 days, I fought with the sword and spear when there were few monsters and fought with purification magic if there was a crowd. I heard that a large crowd of monsters appear at where the boss resides so I proceeded without being too eager.

Just like the information an uncountable number of undead was there, I figured that I would be okay somehow so I began combat but I realised that I could not use magic. I began to be impatient. From then on I attacked by brandishing my sword and spear and the battle continued.

I was bitten and scratched but somehow I defeated all the monsters.”

“That must have been tough. Could you recover from your injuries using potions?”

“Ah~ Now that you mentioned it, it would have been easier if I had potions.”

“Ha?”

“Hahaha. Up until then I had never used a potion so I went without carrying any potions.”

” ... Wasn’t potions recommended to you?”

“It was, but it was quite expensive so I thought I didn’t need it. And then I was shocked when a Wight appeared.”

” ... Did you take out your shield then? I would expect that you applied barrier magic so you should be okay.”

” ... No~ Because I didn’t apply barrier magic so it was tough when I got surrounded in the boss room. Honestly if I had not experience being slashed and poked in the Adventurer’s Guild, I might have given up there.

Also, if I knew that a Wight would appear ... or that I wouldn't be able to use magic, I would have went with a method slightly more efficient than flinging myself against the enemy."

"... I see. Even though you knew you would meet a boss, you went in without carrying any healing items nor did you apply barrier magic ... I'm surprised you won."

"That's right. I didn't think that the bow I bought the previous day would become a clue to victory."

"Even so to advance until the 10th floor in 10 days. Have you been taking breaks properly? In addition you had to train as well."

"Eh? I didn't take any breaks. I wanted to clear the labyrinth as soon as possible, and for training I was slashing zombies every day so it's okay. Ah, I did continue to conduct fundamental magic training though."

"... Incidentally when did you start using the sword and spear combat style?"

"Since the day I entered the labyrinth."

I finally understood Luciel-kun after seeing him like this. He is a person who is missing common sense. Without noticing my mouth was left hanging. No, not only me but even Lucy and Kuina as well.

"... Just what in the world did you think you were doing?"

"Are you looking for death?"

"It's stupidity. You were just lucky. Normally you would have died."

"Ah~ and here I thought that you have graduated from being ignorant after much difficulties, you went and did something so reckless this time."

"For what it's worth, I've been doing a one-person reflection for half a day since yesterday, so please forgive me this time. My spirit is already crumbling right now."

Even if your spirit crumbles, without changing your roots you will die. Just as I wanted to say that, Lucy spoke up.

"So what do you want to do now?"

"I plan to return back to Meratoni to train myself and become stronger."

My eyes clouded over as I looked into the distance and sighed. However,

“As a general rule for healers, without a written order transfers from the headquarters is not allowed.”

That’s right. It would not be so easily accepted. Moreover there’s what Katria-sama told me, maybe I should have him participate in training.

“If you want to train, I think I can help.”

“Eh? Really?”

“Yeah. I think it will be hard for a healer, but it is possible for you to join the training of paladins. However, do not expect individual guidance.”

” ... Could I request that it does not interfere with my exploration of the labyrinth?”

“Umu. Then once a week on the day of fire we will have an intense training.”

“Yes. I look forward to training with you.”

Thus it was decided that Luciel would join in the training of my Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

After Luciel’s meal ended we headed to training.

Lucy asked as we made our way.

“Was it a wise choice to let him participate in our training?”

“It will be fine. Because he is a healer, he is remarkable weaker than us paladins and his statuses are low. I heard that when he came here he was only level 1 but he should have become slightly stronger by now.”

“But even so I don’t think he would be able to keep up with our training.”

“That is possible. But according to the reports he trained in martial arts continuously for 2 years without any rest days. Our paladin corps has now become the strongest small elite squad because of our hard work.

The number of individuals who can put in that level of effort is unfortunately very small within the church headquarters. Of course after putting him through our training once, if he is only a man of such low capabilities then we will discard him. Okay?”

『Yes!』

Thus I told the other members of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and we greeted the scheduled training day.

Maybe fundamentally Luciel only has interest in himself, or just that he is really dense, but never in my dreams did I imagine that I would see a healer treat paladins as girls.

Everyone in the squad thought so as well. We have even been treated as monsters but to have a guy hesitate to attack us was a first.

Just like that, maybe because they were delighted to be treated as girls, everyone took to Luciel favourably.

Even though he knew that we had greater abilities than him, I was shocked that he could say that not just for appearances but with genuine feelings, and it didn't feel bad.

Among the healers, Luciel should be one of the stronger ones. That is without a doubt.

However, compared to us he is markedly weaker. But, is there any meaning for him to use that style?

There wasn't any meaning, so I had him hold a stance with a sword and shield, and he became slightly more acceptable. Since his skill level II was already like this, it looks like his mentor is a considerable warrior.

His swordsmanship was also not bad. But his combat sense was not high. If that's the case then I can focus on training that aspect of him.

Although even with training there would not be much of a significant change. At the point he was set to swing his sword I jabbed out with my fist.

At that moment, he smiled. That's right he smiled. Right when my fist collided he was bathed in a pale light and I saw the swung out sword return towards me.

Did he aim for this? A healer? In the first place, to be able to chant while swinging a sword and moving around, I bow down to the inconceivable amount of time he spent working hard to achieve this.

It can't be helped. I shall also answer in kind.

"Splendid!"

Behind him, I landed a chop towards the back of his neck and he fell unconscious right at that spot.

“Okay. Everyone saw that right. This is a healer with low status parameters whose basic attributes are even lower than that of magicians. We have higher status and our skill levels rise more easily and we still put in effort, but we do not put in extraordinary effort.

It is a shame that the other priest knights and paladins don't even put in effort. He is an outstanding talent that defeated the 10th floor boss in 10 days. As long as the labyrinth remains, Katria-sama will never return. That is why we will drill him.

Are there any objections? None. Then we will restart the training.”

After early morning training ended, we ate our meals and training resumed.

Unexpectedly the toughness of Luciel's uniform and balanced barrier magic was on par with that of veteran healers. Due to that, nobody anticipated that the assigned team that attacked first would end up losing and Luciel's evaluation further increased.

The training progressed smoothly and only training exercises remained but that was where it happened.

“Now then squad, from the nearby forest until the wilderness, we will now begin exterminating monsters. Everybody prepare your horses and assemble.”

『Yes (? ... yes?)』

I had a slightly bad feeling from the weird reply from Luciel.

“Was there something you didn't understand?”

“Yes. I mean up until now I have never experienced riding a horse.”

” ... That is truly out of my expectations.”

I completely forgot. Supposedly he was a villager. If that's the case then even if he had seen a horse before, he wouldn't have touched or ridden on one before.

However, a typical healer even when young would have earned quite a sum of money so many of them own horses. Moreover to think that he had the physique of a knight but had not ridden on a horse before.

Well this was a honest mistake on my part.

“There's no helping it. Luciel-kun go ask the stable management personnel how to ride a horse and practice. Because once we proceed with the training exercise there will be onlookers.”

“I apologize for the inconvenience.”

“Don’t worry. It’s because I did not consider it as well. You can conduct your horse riding training here. That’s because when our exercise has ended we will return here.”

“Understood. Please don’t worry and set out.”

“Right. We will guide you to the stables. Okay, everybody advance.”

Thus we left for the training exercise and he stayed for horsemanship training.

During the journey to the training exercise, I talked about his background up until now. Everyone chimed in with delighted voices because there was now a maverick within the healers, which were the main reason why the church’s reputation was dropping.

Thus we drilled him until the point where we had to leave him to set out on an expedition.

And then when we departed for an expedition we received sparse applause as usual, but just this time, there was a single call from the streets to “Work hard”.

It was even more terrific than the time Katria-sama kicked-off a departure while at the forefront.

And then we heard voices call out zombie, masochist and deviant saint healer.

I searched for his magical power. Even though it was from afar, he properly came to send us off.

When I told everyone that this was the work of Luciel, everyone understood.

Filled with the surprise that he is now the most popular healer in the Holy City, our hearts became lighter and our moods were uplifted. With energy flowing into our bodies we aimed for the national borders.

(TL: I like how there were some hints that Lumina might like Luciel, just that she doesn’t know it yet. Hahaha first romance possibility?)

Chapter 28

Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day

The battle with Undead attribute monsters continued. Normally it would be impossible with deteriorating health and the bad odour. I thought that maybe there really hasn't been anybody who had cleared this. However, can't people like Instructor Broad or Lumina-san who can move at a speed that I can't follow successfully clear this?

Now that I think about it, it has been quite easy up to here.

Maybe the reason why the previous expedition failed was because of their large numbers being susceptible to skills like confusion or mental collapse?

Maybe that's why I can advance all alone.

I attacked with a sword, searching for a gap in the opponent's habits to add in sneak attacks.

"I initially thought that the undead do not feel pain but it looks like that is not the case right? Having a sense of pain, how is sensei's body holding up? Hmm sensei?"

During the clash of swords, I who obtained cheat equipments blocked the sword with my shield and channelled magical power into my feet before kicking sensei at his left flank.

『Gooo~』 The Specter Knight cried out, before slamming into the labyrinth wall.

It will soon be 3 months since I shut myself in the labyrinth.

For the sake of refreshing myself, I exit the labyrinth once a week to talk with Katria-san and refresh my horsemanship training.

Although I have currently captured the labyrinth until the 30th floor, I had not proceeded to the boss room.

"Thank you for the hard work. How's your condition lately?"

“I can finally win against the Specter Knight. *(TL: Most likely he meant he is able to win without using magic)* However, against multiple opponents, if that appears then I think I will still have a tough battle.”

“I see. By the way you don’t intend to class up?”

“Yeah. Thinking of the reward I would get when I someday clear the labyrinth, I still wish to continue working hard.” *(TL: I think class up meant like going from cleric to priest etc so he wouldn’t be assigned to be an exorcist for the labyrinth anymore after that)*

“Fufufu. You are pretty stubborn.”

“Yeah. Well I plan to enter the 30th floor boss room sometime soon.”

“I won’t say cliché words like ‘Good luck’ but don’t die okay.”

“Haha. Of course.”

“So you’re going in again?”

“No, I have something I wish to buy so I’ll go out temporarily. Oh yeah any news regarding the Valkyrie Paladin Corps?”

“Sounds like they aren’t having any problems. But it seems like it is impossible that they would be told to remain still.”

“Well there’s no way they’ll discard healers to the front lines.”

“Yeah. But those girl’s lives are more valuable than those greedy healers.”

“I am a healer as well but I think so too.”

” ... Ara, now that you’ve mentioned it you are a healer.”

” ... Hahaha.”

“Lately I’ve heard them call you as Sir Deviant Saint so I ended up thinking that you were a paladin.”

“Please give me a break.”

“Fufufu. So what will you be doing on this holiday?”

“I’ll visit the Adventurer’s Guild, buy some food from the food market after that and once again dive into the labyrinth.”

“Are you sure you won’t become funny from fighting so many undead?”

“No I won’t. Maybe it’s because I have the mental resistance skill?”

“Don’t overdo it.”

“That’s becoming your favourite phrase. I’m off.”

“Take care.”

Within these 3 months I did not meet anybody who came looking for me as an adversary.

Firstly, because my physique had become pretty much like the appearance of a knight, I no longer look like a healer.

Next, because I tied my hair due to it becoming longer, even if they had seen my face when I was with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, they wouldn’t recognize me now.

Well there were pranks done on my room but that’s all there was to it.

Oh, while lost in thought, I’ve reached the Adventurer’s Guild.

“Good afternoon.”

After I entered and greeted, the master came out.

“Oh Deviant Saint-sama. Did you come here for *that* today? Or is today a day for healing?”

“Why are you always in the kitchen?”

“Ah. I found out that *that* is running out soon. Also, didn’t you say that you would take a day off once a week?”

“Good job remembering something from a month ago.”

“Keh. If I forget something like that from someone who does so much for us, I would lose my qualifications as guild master.”

“Then why are you at the kitchen?”

“It’s my hobby.”

“Is that so ... I’m sorry for the rush but please prepare 10 barrels of *that*. After that ...

“Ah Deviant Saint-sama”

“Ah, good afternoon Milty-san. Please gather the injured people downstairs.”

“Understood.”

“I’ll go make preparations as well.”

Thus both of them left for the underground and the kitchen respectively.

Deviant Saint’s Whimsical Day. (*TL: It is like those national holidays like Christmas or Thanksgiving Day etc.*) How did such a day come to be? Since the day the nickname ‘Deviant Saint’ was coined, I accept nomination requests from the Adventurer’s Guild once a month.

The price was set as 1 silver coin plus any information and mock battles with the adventurers. In order to know my own abilities I fought and received advice.

Unexpectedly, it seemed like losing to a healer was humiliating to adventurers, so newbies and low rankers began to desperately train and practice. Apparently due to that the mortality rate and cases of failed missions dramatically decreased.

Currently, I could fight with multiple E rank and D rank adventurers without losing but I would not be able to win either.

If I fought 1-on-1 against a D rank I would win. It was around that level.

Seeing that, those above B rank began training their fundamentals again and apparently even when the monsters became active nobody came back with life-threatening injuries.

Also, it seems that the day before the Deviant Saint’s Whimsical Day, everyone takes on high rank requests and lately high rank monsters were being defeated one by one.

Somehow I was the core reason for this virtuous cycle and I have immense popularity among the adventurers here.

The source of all these information were the tavern master-cum-guild master, Granz-san and waitress-cum-assistant guild master Milty-san.

Nevertheless, was the Adventurer’s Guild doing fine with those 2 people as the top? I began to doubt that.

“Oh, Deviant Saint-sama long time no see.”

“Ah, Elitz-dono, long time no see.”

“Have that become slightly of use to you?”

“Yeah. But I still find it difficult to control.”

“Shouldn’t it be a piece of cake with such a high level in magical power manipulation? Also, are you still level 1?”

“Yeah. That’s because I’m still not defeating any monsters.”

“Hah~ What a waste. Even though you are such an outrageous raw diamond to be able to fight to such a degree.”

“I’m only doing this because I don’t want to die. Rather than that, is it true that there is a famous story saying that if you circulate magical power within your body at high speed it raises physical abilities?”

“Yeah. But if you can’t manipulate magical power then there’s no need to try that.”

“Heh~.”

“By the way, recently that person who lost to Deviant Saint-sama ...”

Just like that while talking with the guild’s A rank Elitz, I stored Object X into my magic bag, and once again cast 「Area High Heal」 , 「Purification」 , 「Recover」 and 「Dispel」 onto the people who needed them.

Following that I obtained information regarding Meratoni and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, did some mock battles and visited the food market. After that I ordered a meal with large portions in the Adventurer’s Guild such that people exclaimed that I have a large appetite, before I returned full of energy to the Healer’s Guild.

“Well then let’s go.” Thus I set the 10th floor boss room as my sleeping ground today and rested there.

Incidentally, regardless of defeating the undead using magic or magical attack, I realised that my Holy magic attribute proficiency increases, and it increases in proportion to my enthusiasm. However reaching level IX, and let alone level X, would be a long term task.

“Once my body’s strengthening becomes slightly more smooth, I will challenge the 30th floor boss.”

Chapter 29

Training outcome?

Battle with the 30th Floor Boss

I woke up, stretched and had my breakfast with Object X before getting pumped up and resuming my labyrinth capture.

I learned the orthodox method of using a sword and shield from Specter Knight-sensei, and fought with large crowds in the 10th floor boss room to eliminate my wasteful movements and promote the improvement of my judgements.

I also handled the continuous attacks from ghouls, mummies, ghosts, skeleton swordsman and skeleton archers until the 30th floor.

In this manner I spent 3 months of my time. *(TL: This is the same 3 months mentioned in the previous chapter.)*

People can adapt to their environments. In the beginning, although I received quite a number of wounds but I could heal them. I also defeated the opponents before suffering mortal injuries so that I could leisurely heal myself.

Also my efforts were small each time, I believe that it accumulates and turns into experience.

Although I did not complain about having no progress for 3 months, but not advancing my goal of steadily clearing the game started to cause my heart to ache looking at my acquired cheat items.

“Haaaa, naive, eat this!”

With my ultra-aggressive dual sword spear style, regular sword and shield style, plus currently my kicks was also a great weapon, even if I got surrounded in the 30th floor I would at most suffer light injuries.

The largest reasons for victory were that the undead attacks are all executed in a linear manner, and if my attacks hit them squarely, they would disappear like fog and turn into magic stones.

I had accumulated a large amount of P from diving. During a regular restock of weapons, I've heard that the dwarfs could manufacture made-to-order weapons for me in exchange for P.

Furthermore, I could purchase a good performance magic robe which costs 10 white gold coins made from materials with higher magic resistance compared to the robe I received from the headquarters with just 2 million P?

I had that in consideration when I bought it but until now I had not been hit by any magic so in reality I had no idea if there was any difference.

Although I've never met the dwarfs, I heard all this from Katria-san. Apparently they were willing to do so because they thought it was interesting that I'm a close combat healer but my true feelings were that I hope no strange rumours begin circulating without my knowledge.

"Well there are people who are cheering for me and I think I have become slightly stronger but within the span of 3 months I had not levelled up so there wasn't any large leaps. Although Instructor Broad told me to not be manipulated by my status."

However, I was thankful with respect to this training that allowed me to attack all I want without danger to my mental condition compared to when slashing living monsters or bandits.

While having such worries, 3 days later I carried out my final preparations in front of the 30th floor boss room.

"Weapons, good. Armour, good. Magic bag, good. Applied magic, good. Object X, good."

I gulped down Object X in one breath.

"Puuuu. Well then let's go."

I slowly opened the door to the 30th floor boss room.

I entered while remaining vigilant towards the darkness. After the door was shut, the light let up and although the size was the same compared to the other boss rooms, instead of a square-shape room, the room was cone-shaped.

However, I currently did not have time to consider such things.

That was because ...

“Seriously.” I muttered at the sight caught in my eyes.

Within the boss room, 3 Wights and 5 Specter Knights with flashing red eyes glared at my direction, waiting and poised to strike.

I made the first move.

I chanted purification magic while taking some distance by running along the bank of the cone-shaped room in order to avoid being surrounded by all of them, together with the intent to fend off concentrated attacks.

I casted purification magic and further weaved in another cast of purification magic, but the setting wasn't so easy that one of them would disappear with just that.

However, after casting their bodies became rigid and stopped. At that moment I threw daggers with magic channelled into them hoping that I could reduce their numbers.

It pierced the head of the Specter Knights but those aimed towards the Wights were deflected by the shields of the Specter Knights.

Each of the Wights chanted magic using their canes but because I was constantly on the move they did not hit. In order to protect the Wights, the Specter Knights also couldn't move from the center of the room. Because of that no large scale magic was used.

Although I began with the strategy to not get surrounded, surely my luck ... no Great Luck-sensei was invoked.

After casting purification magic for a total of 5 times, I felt that the miasma spread within the room weakened. Wanting to try it once, I strengthened my body and while casting the 6th purification magic, I plunged into the group of monsters clustered in the center of the room.

The monsters caught me but because purification magic was in place none of them launched a suicide attack at me.

I believed that divine protection from the god of fate boosted my 「Great Luck」.

The 3 Wights each shot magic from the center and the Specter Knights only readied their shields.

The great magic barrier on my robe and paladin armour did a good job.

Instead of large scale magic, black water, wind and earth spears were cast towards me but I paid no heed to them and I began my assault while relying on my shield to prevent fatal injuries.

When I closed the distance, this time instead of magic, the Specter Knights attacked with physical attacks but I had comparatively more room to relax with this.

Deflecting the second attack with my shield, all the monsters had entered my magic's range.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, shelter everything and heal everyone, Area High Heal.】

The magic that I wanted to try was 「Area High Heal」 .

Compared to purification magic, it's effect was terrific.

The monsters all screamed in agony.

With canes, swords and shields dropped, their screaming appearance looked as if I was torturing them. Although I felt unpleasant, I did not throw away the greatest opportunity given to me.

While chanting 「Area High Heal」 again, I approached the Wights and channelled magical power into my sword to sever its head, before swinging my sword in a straight line, splitting it in half.

I repeated this 3 times, before once again casting 「Area High Heal」 . I buried the Specter Knights in one breath ... or specifically, without me cutting them, the Specter Knights all screamed even louder before forcefully melting and leaving behind their magic stones and items.

“HaaHaaHaa. Wasn't that pretty much a complete victory?”

While I regained my breath, I drank a magic potion and immediately cast purification magic on the dropped items.

“It would be bad if that dark purple smoke from when they disappear is miasma. However, it's really great that I could finally use the Holy attribute magic 「Area High Heal」 . If not I would have died from the very beginning.”

This time the battle was a complete victory because everything proceeded in the best direction. I told myself that.

“Indeed, if I normally face this number of opponents, it would most likely be game over.”

I collected all the weapons, armours, accessories and magic stones.

After doing so, as per usual the door leading downwards opened and a flight of stairs appeared.

“However, I understood from this battle that the Specter Knights found in the labyrinth passageways are rookie soldiers and the boss room ones are the real thing or I mean veteran knights. So even Specter Knights have ranks?” I murmured such carefree stuff.

“For the time being I’ve reached until here. The setting was that in the past the church’s knight team usually also reached here as well. I think they said that after this dangerous monsters appear? I wonder if there are treasure chests or key items?”

While I still continued thinking of it as a game, “Somehow after coming to this world, I have been living a life like a monk in training fighting evil spirits.” While muttering so, I began eating from my bento.

After finishing my meal I went to the 31st floor and got surprised by the appearance of different coloured ghouls with increased agility. Taking the stairs back to the boss room, there were 5 Specter Knights present.

Thus with the number of Specter Knight-sensei with abilities equal to or greater than mine, I decided to make this my training field from today onward and as I exited the labyrinth my stomach clock rang.

Challenging the labyrinth, I had successfully subjugated the 30th floor boss on the 128th day.

Chapter 30

Third negotiation audience with the Pope and Object X

After returning from the labyrinth, Katria-san called out to me first.

“Welcome back. That expression ... Well firstly thank you for returning safely.”

“Please stop doing that. If Katria-san who always takes care of me bows her head to me, I’ll feel uncomfortable.”

“Fufufu. Really?”

“Please stop with those mischievous eyes. Well then first of all, please convert my magic stones into points.”

“Mou. I wanted you to let me tease you a little bit more.”

Even while saying that Katria-san had already taken my card and was moving the magic stones into her bag. That’s right Katria-san had always used a magic bag with greater capabilities compared to mine to perform P conversion.

“It’s really amazing this time. 426,549P.”

“It was quite good. Nevertheless, this time could really be expressed with the bold letters ‘Seriously’ bad. Without 「Area High Heal」 I would have really died.”

” ... To be able to cast 「Area High Heal」 at such an age, Luciel-kun are you sure you didn’t falsify your age?”

” ... Eh? But when I registered at 15 years old I couldn’t even cast 「Heal」 ?”

“Or did you dabble with things like dubious drugs.”

“There’s no way I would ... Ah?!”

“Let’s cleanse you by confessing your sins in front of the Pope.”

My arm had been firmly caught.

“I was thinking of going there as well. I have something on my mind so please bring me to the Pope this time as well.”

“Ara? Somehow you’ve become more aggressive. Was it because you finally defeated the 30th floor boss?”

“No. This time I just hope that the Pope knows anything regarding something that I have been drinking for more than 2 years.”

” ... That’s very different from what I had in mind.”

“That’s because I feel like I’m very close to solving a 2 year long mystery.”

“I feel that the tension is somewhat higher as well. Perhaps you really almost died?”

“Hahaha. I was actually surprised at how the situation turned out. This time, I succeeded with no damage taken only because luck was on my side, allowing me to realise that Holy magic is effective against the Undead. If not for that, I might have died.”

“Luciel-kun, it’s a bad omen to keep saying that you will die so please stop.”

“I was saying it figuratively. Sorry.”

“Well then should we go?”

“Let’s go.”

We continued our conversation while we walked.

“So then what monsters appeared this time?”

“3 Wights and 5 Specter Knights appeared and I truly thought that I would die. I was saved thanks to the fact that somehow I reached level VIII and became capable of using 「Area High Heal」 . But I am afraid that eventually beast-type undead like Undead Dragons and Dullahans would eventually appear.”

“I see. By the way dragons are classified as fairies and not as undead so Holy magic would not have any effect on them.”

” ... Seriously?! I pray that this doesn’t become a flag.” *(TL: In Japanese gaming terminology a flag (in this case a death flag or an encounter flag) is where a certain event is triggered by a certain choice made in a game; in this case by him mentioning about undead dragons he’s hoping that he won’t end up really encountering it)*

“Flag?”

“Don’t mind me.”

“By the way what have you been drinking?”

“Some extremely stinky and disgusting drink called Object X from the Adventurer’s Guild. They said that it was made for the adventurer’s by some sage in the past but have you heard of it?”

“Nope I’ve never heard of it. Is it well known?”

“Yes. Up to the point that I received nicknames because I continued to drink it.”

” ... That seems fairly intense. Even so ... Your holiness it is Katria.”

“Umu. Enter.”

“Yes!”

Thus my third negotiation audience with the Pope began.

Katria-san and I knelt down and bowed our heads down before the Pope spoke up.

“Is today’s matter regarding the 30th floor boss?”

“Yes. It is regarding the matter that he defeated the 30th floor boss.”

“Umu. Thank you for your hard work. Even so, to reach the 30th floor on your own, you have exceeded my expectations.”

“Thank you very much. This was also thanks to the equipment and tools I’ve received.”

“Hohou. However that is unlikely to be the only reason. I’ve heard that you have high magical powers as well.”

“I have something to report with regards to that. Apparently he has been drinking something called Object X said to be made by a sage.”

“This is it.” I extracted the barrel of Object X from my magic bag.

“?! Put that back immediately!”

” ... Ugh, is that poison?”

Huh? Was it that smelly? Not only Katria-san, even the maids had frowns on their faces.

“No, it comes from a magic tool made by a sage-sama from a deal with the Adventurer’s Guild. Between adventurers they talk of it as something that even monsters wouldn’t approach.”

“There was such a thing? Wait ... What is the official name for that?”

“I’ve only heard it called as Object X. It is something that novice adventurers must be able to drink.”

” ... Maybe, that is not Object X but the pill developed by the adventurers made by mixing various herbs, the heart of a dragon, water from the spirits, root of the world tree and other items, and they somehow developed a magic tool capable of making something similar but for some reason it became a liquid so they renamed it. No, if that is the case then it shouldn’t be named Object X. Supposedly during the time when it was a pill, the assigned name was tasteless so the inventor renamed it as God’s Grief. That should have been written down in literature.”

It was without a doubt a cheat item. But the world would have been fine without such a strange item.

“That liquid form of God’s Grief, Object X might be the source of my success. True, it is so disgusting that even the gods would lament it, the sense of taste and smell would be damaged for 1 hour after consuming it and there is even slight amounts of poison mixed in. However, I’ve learned that the body’s immunity is capable of detoxifying the poison such that the poison doesn’t accumulate. I drink a mug of this in undiluted form after breakfast, lunch and dinner. I started drinking this 2 and a half years ago and I may have reached this stage thanks this.”

I lightly tapped the barrel of Object X kept within my magic bag.

” ... Have you really been drinking that?”

“Yes. That’s because this a world that one loses life easily. I wouldn’t feel at ease without doing things that can be done to prevent that. Without any risks, if just by drinking it one can become stronger then of course I drank it. Ah, with the exception of the nicknames gained and pitying gazes obtained from drinking this.”

I felt slightly sad when I said that.

“I understand. Your extraordinary growth was due to your hard work and suffering.”

” ... Luciel-kun is amazing.” Oh? Katria-san has returned to normal.

“Umu. If that’s the case then there’s no issue. Although the sage had really neglected to think about how it would turn out taste and smell-wise.”

I totally agree.

“Well then, what were the monsters this time?”

“Yes. 3 Wights and 5 Specter Knights. I defeated them while on the run using 「Area High Heal」 .”

“Hou. To be able to reach such heights at such a young age, you might one day even ascend to the rank of Archbishop.”

“I will work hard.”

“Well then take them out.”

I took out all the items I picked up and passed them over to the maids.

As usual, the Pope looked at the items handed over by the maids and suddenly muttered.

“This belongs to those 3 girls ... That’s enough for today. I will pass the rewards to Katria, good luck with the labyrinth capture.”

Her voice sounded slightly stiff and gloomy. Looks like it was a setting with those 3 being her acquaintances. *(TL: He still thinks that they are acting out the setting for the ‘game’ = labyrinth he is assigned to clear)*

After leaving the Pope’s room, I went to the dining hall for the first time in a long time.

“Ah, oneesan, long time no see. Please give me a generous serving for today’s dinner.”
(TL: Oneesan = Elder sister or a polite way of calling a woman who is younger than aunty but older than a young girl)

“Erm knight-sama, how much do you desire?”

The oddly stiff manner of speech left question marks hanging above my head.

“What is with that manner of speech? I am Luciel.”

I checked my surroundings before quietly whispering. Obachan stiffened, before her face thawed out and was replaced with a gentle expression. *(TL: Obachan = aunty)*

“Ohhh so it was Luciel-kun. With your hair tied up and your equipped armour, I totally had no idea who you were. I will immediately go prepare your food.”

After that the kitchen was fairly hectic. “Thank you for waiting. Eat up and regain your energy.” A plate that had slightly more than my usual was prepared for me.

“It looks delicious. Great job.”

“Thanks for the compliment. I’ll pass it on to the others.”

“Thank you. I’ll leave it up to you the next time as well.”

After taking a seat and while having my warm meal, I thought “Do the waiters here have it tough? They look so tense.”

“Thank you for the delicious meal. I’ll be back tomorrow.”

“Then I’ll prepare plenty tomorrow.”

“Yeah. Thank you.”

I conversed with obachan and returned to my room.

“There hasn’t been any harassments, maybe everyone knows that I do not stay here. Maybe they can’t openly challenge me because not only is it impossible to intimidate using force within the church headquarters, I have also had multiple audiences with the Pope.”

While I considered that, I read the magic spell books for the first time in a long time and concentrated on fundamental magic training before falling asleep at the place I laid down upon.

The next morning, I had a filling meal and collected my bento. Right when I wanted to enter the labyrinth, Katria-san was unusually already there.

“Katria-san, good morning.”

“Good morning. Luciel-kun the Pope gave you this ...”

A piece of parchment was handed to me.

“This is?”

“It seems like records of God’s Grief, or Object X’s, effects.”

God's Grief aka Object X was written in detail.

"There's quite a lot written down, oh well. I'll be entering the labyrinth then."

"Good luck. If you have any troubles come discuss them with me."

"... ? Okay. Thank you."

Katria-san had unusually displayed eyes with pity and quickly hid them away or was it my imagination?

I thought about that as I entered the labyrinth.

After defeating the monsters from the 1st floor to the 20th floor, right before sleeping I read the parchment I received and got a shock.

Below is word for word what was recorded in literature regarding God's Grief aka Object X.

There was a trend that the occupations related to the church like knights, healers and priests was on the decline due to mankind's three greatest desires, the desire to sleep, the desire to eat and the desire for sexual pleasure.

Although I feel immensely regretful that I was forced to name it God's Grief, I created this remedy so that they would not be treated unfairly in this world and so that they would not lose the joy of living as people.

The effects are increased appetite, increased sexual desire and activated autonomic nervous system. As a by-product, I learnt that various abnormal status resistances are gained, and dormant cells are activated resulting in various statuses becoming easier to rise.

When I introduced it to the church, I was consecutively criticised for the smell so it was deemed inappropriate by church and disposed of.

I was depressed. At that moment the Adventurer's Guild headquarter's master Crius was interested in its effects and wanted to make newbies drink it.

Thus my research was instead harnessed by the Adventurer's Guild.

I've decided to concentrate all my research into one day developing a remedy that can be introduced to the church as well.

Subsequently within the church, every time the sage-sama made a new adjustment to the remedy it released a nasty odour, so the therapeutic medicine was never completed.

After I finished reading I understood. That pitying eyes from Katria-san was because she saw me as an asexual (*TL: no sexual desire. She thought that he had low sexual desire so he drank Object X to boost it XD*). Wait.

And then I realised, I could converse with females and I do have interest in them but I've never felt horny.

“Note to self, once I clear the labyrinth, I will go fall in love with someone.” I somehow mustered energy from my tired body, only after reaching the 30th floor did I finally recover from my shock.

The next day, while exploring the 31st floor, I also had combat with the Specter Knight squad. Incidentally they disappear with only 1 cast of purification magic so, without being unreasonable, I gradually increased the numbers that I faced and I began training within my labyrinth training ground.

Chapter 31

The steadily advancing exploration and the disaster in Holy City Schull

People do not grow that quickly. No matter how strong the desire.

Even a protagonist from a tale works hard to advance forward, struggles with his own weaknesses, experiences various hardships in the world, and grows by overcoming all of that.

With some luck added in, the story advances quickly, the protagonist powers up and becomes capable of easily winning against formidable enemies that he had trouble fighting against until now.

I spent 1 month to finish exploring the comparatively wider 31st to 40th floor.

Although just now I spoke of the success stories of protagonists from stories, I think that I differ slightly because of Great Luck-sensei.

Due to all the maps that I've been drawing until now, I now feel like the maps are all floating inside my head as I recalled all the times 「Great Luck」 was triggered in the past 1 month.

Instead of me, monsters walked into traps and showed me the location of the traps. Just when I thought that there weren't any treasure chests, I found one and while considering if it was a trap, I nervously opened it but instead what appeared was an extinct finest grade magic spell book.

Floating in the air wrapped in a black robe reminiscent of the reaper, I fought with a skeleton ghost Wraith and thought that I would face a tough battle but was instead surprised with an easy victory.

“Don't tell me because my 「Aura Coat」 and 「Mental Resistance」 increased, Darkness magic is totally ineffective against me so I can just laugh while they approach and instant kill them. I somewhat feel sorry for the developer (the Pope).”

Because I continued to drinking Object X, I can no longer be dominated mentally or by illusions. The black light released by the Wraith wrapped around my body but it just dissolves away.

I was startled when the Wraith gave an eerie smile as it floated towards me. Without shooting any magic, without showing any vigilance, just slowly approaching.

The moment I cut it, it immediately turned into smoke so I couldn't understand the Wraith's feelings but I imagined that it was something like "That's impossible!!". *(TL: The Wraith thought that he was caught in its illusion so it let it's guard down)*

"Being capable of advancing 10 floors in 1 month makes me feel overconfident, thinking that I've become stronger. In addition the enemies are all so predictable that it's seriously toilsome."

"This should be where the Pope created the scenario for the climax. If that's the case then there's no doubt that it will be the commanders of the paladins and priest knights from 50 years ago."

"It feels like I would get instantly killed if I proceed on here. Should I go gather information from the Adventurer's Guild first?"

I had no way to dispel the ominous feeling I had so I resigned from challenging the 40th floor boss this time.

"Welcome back."

Katria-san's friendly smile greeted me when I exited the labyrinth.

After that time I discovered the shocking truth, I returned as usual and explained to her my circumstances regarding why I drink Object X.

"Ara, is that so? Aren't you glad another strange rumour didn't start spreading around?"

Since she could say something so sinister, we had returned to our previous relationship.

"I'm back. I've reached the 40th floor."

"... Truly amazing. What kind of monsters appeared?"

“Yeah. Wraiths, Specter Knights, mummies and ghouls. Well pretty much nothing new.”

” ... Luciel-kun have you been told before that you don’t have common sense?”

” ... Yes I have. Lumina-san told me so 15 minutes after I first met her.”

“That’s right. Although Wights are extremely strong monsters, Wraiths are monsters with a danger rating of over A rank you know?”

“I know that. But for some reason Darkness magic have totally no effect on me. It is also the same for mental attacks, maybe I have a constitution that makes it hard to affect me with abnormal statuses.”

” ... Is it thanks to *that*?”

“Yes. Even though I’ve suffered from continuing to drink that, I’m thankful for it.”

“And drinking that is considerably tough as well.”

“Hahaha. I’m somehow feeling sad so I’ll go show my face at the Adventurer’s Guild.”

“Oh yeah. The Valkyrie Paladin Corps returned from their expedition. However, after reporting in they once again left on an expedition to various towns in Saint Schull.”

“Eh? Isn’t Lumina-sama’s squad abnormally busy?”

“Yeah. But it will be over soon. Wounds can’t be healed without first cutting away the pus. Luciel-kun as well if anything happens let me know.”

” ...?! Understood!!”

From Katria-san’s chilly smile, I felt the same intimidating aura as from that time when Instructor Broad met Botacyl.

I headed towards the Adventurer’s Guild.

Just as I wanted to enter the Adventurer’s Guild, my robe was grabbed from behind.

“Huh?”

Turning around, there wasn’t anyone behind me.

“Was it my imagination?”

I thought that was the case as I once again tried to enter but then I noticed a small beast girl grabbing on to my robe.

” ... Please let go of my robe. Can I help you?”

The girl nodded with her tear-drenched face.

“Un~. There there. For now could we enter the Adventurer’s Guild first?”

The girl hesitated for a moment before nodding.

“Deviant Saint-sama, welcome to the Adventurer’s Guild. We’ve been expecting you.”

“Huh?”

I was grabbed by stalwart guys and brought to the basement.

“Deviant Saint-sama has arrived.”

“Eh? Isn’t that Masochistic zombie healer-sama?”

“You idiot that’s a taboo nickname. Now we either call him Deviant Saint-sama or Deviant Paladin-sama.”

“Thanks for the heads up. I’ll keep that in mind.”

“Deviant Saint-sama, please hurry.”

“Oi, bring along the injured people from the city as well.”

“Hey all you guys who are holding on to Deviant Saint-sama, I *will* drop your rank without any questions asked okay.” (Master)

Somehow something huge has happened.

“Erm there’s a lot of injured people huh? Erm, ah, Master, that little beast girl requested for my help in front of the guild so please help me listen to her request. She might possibly be asking for an escort.”

“So you are all properly lining up now eh? Okay. It would be impossible for me to approach a little girl so, Milty, go listen to the request from that girl who caught Deviant Saint-sama outside with her sharp sense of smell.” (Master)

“Understood. Deviant Saint-sama, please start your treatment from that side.”

“Okay.”

Thus without grasping what had happened, I treated many injured individuals in the Adventurer’s Guild.

With some rest in between, I casted 「Area High Heal」 3 times as well as 「Cure」, 「Recover」 and 「Dispel」.

After about 30 minutes, treatment ended.

Ah, that’s right. It’s possible since I’ve done this. With that in mind, I made my request.

“This time, I came here to request for an investigation regarding the undead.”

“Okay. I’ll get some smart people to investigate. Guys, today Deviant Saint-sama won’t be escaping so go defend.”

『Understood!』

Thus all the treated individuals ascended the stairs at once and only a small number of staffs, Master and the beast girl remained.

“Deviant Saint-sama, I’m sorry but could I bother you to please hurry to the slums together with this girl?”

Thus in addition to not fully understanding what had happened, without reviewing what happened in the Holy City, I was swept along by multiple escorts to the slums.

Chapter 32

The Wheel of Philanthropy

Since coming to the Holy City, I've never once take a good look at the Holy City~ as I thought that, Eh? Come to think of it, since coming to this world have I ever had a leisurely stroll? I realised that I had never done so, not even once.

While I noticed that I've been living a life without any free time, I was at a loss for words as I advanced through the slums. I saw puddles made by copious amounts of blood in various places.

Upon coming to my senses, I dispatched orders while invoking chants to heal the injured.

Immediately after I began healing, the beast girl pulled my robe and I noticed a fainted beastman fully armed within the group of beastman covered in blood.

Somehow it seems that he is likely still alive.

When I approached him, "Look out!" I heard an exclamation and unexpectedly the unconscious beastman stabbed me at my flank with all his might.

"Ah~ It hurts. It really hurts. Ugh I've had enough. I will heal everyone at one go."

As I became teary eyed, I chanted 「Area High Heal」 .

Following that I applied purification magic to clean up as well as 「Recover」 . When the beastman woke up and extracted his dagger, I applied 「High Heal」 to my wound and the situation finally settled down.

"I've had it. Where are the obedient patients. I will only safely treat weak patients."

After I declared so, the people who heard that guided me to the place with obedient individuals and I treated them in order.

I was focused on doing my best so I didn't notice, but various thoughts spilled out from the adventurers who saw the scene unfolding in front of them.

“Did you see that? Even though that beastman pierced the Deviant Saint with a sword, he still angrily treated him.”

“If that happened to a normal healer, he would have either died or fainted.”

“Yeah. Usually a healer wouldn’t even be able to use magic in that situation.”

“Rather than that, normally wouldn’t a healer just refuse to treat the patient after that?”

“Is it that, like a real zombie, he’s strong against attacks?”

“But, if he died then, wouldn’t it have been seriously bad for us?”

“Yeah. Moreover among the adventurers in this Holy City, many of them have received help from Deviant Saint-sama. It also would have been bad for that beastman as well as for the other beastmen.”

“That’s right. I tend to forget because of his young age, but it seems like those who wear that armour are of high ranking in the church, and I also heard that he has a good relationship with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps.”

“There might even be a riot and the human supremacist might start a commotion.”

“Looks like it will be chaotic if we do not properly look after him.”

“Well then everyone, please remain vigilant.”

『Yeah!』

Without any knowledge of the conversation flowing in the background, since I was already here I decided to simultaneously treat all the inhabitants of the slums, including the beastmen as well.

Thus the next 3 days I conducted treatment in the Adventurer’s Guild and visited the slums to clean up as well as thoroughly treat all the injured individuals.

The slum residents were initially fearful of my appearance but when they knew that I offered to clean and treat them free of charge, some of them even worshiped me.

“This time I came here only for charity. Because I intend to treat people kindly, I came here to offer plenty of charity work. I hope that you all will also do charity like me in hopes that people will treat you kindly as well. I hope that someday the kind treatment you’ve offered will return back to you. As long as you all do so, I believe that this kindness will come back to aid you. I believe in all of you here.”

Thus as I smiled, my 3 days of volunteer labour ended.

” ... And so, erm~ I’m begging you, isn’t it about time you all left? Any longer, I fear that I would face strange rumours circulating about.”

Within the Adventurer’s Guild Guildmaster’s room, a group of beastmen were prostrating on the ground. This is really ... harsh on my mental health.

If this was how it’s going to be, I felt that fighting with the undead would have been much easier.

I could only grumble to complain.

“To think that I stabbed a high ranking healer, such an admirable person, even if I offered my life in exchange it would not be enough.”

“Un. There is no need to say so. Well, I heard that you guys are a delegation from the Free City-State of Ienith. So, why were you on the verge of death?”

It is a rare form of a nation without any racial discrimination operated by people representative in the form of a self-governing body. I heard that the representative’s term of office was 2 years.

“Yes. On this occasion, Ienith intends to establish a Healer’s Guild but it depends on their decision.”

“I see.”

“After contacting the Saint Schull church, it was decided that we would meet with the Pope to discuss. But when we were approaching, we were attacked by bandits. The bandits were disciplined instead of disorderly so it was dangerous. Somehow it stank of a conspiracy.”

“I am a healer so I can’t help you with that. Even so you all done well to escape from that.”

“Yeah. Our luck was seriously good and we somehow escaped when magical beasts and adventurers showed up.”

“I see. So were the talks successful?”

“Yeah. The truth is the talks were ongoing until just now but everything has been smoothened out without any problems.”

“I see. If that’s the case, please take care on the way back. For example they might ambush you all halfway through your journey, or they might pretend to ask for help and when you approach them they will scream out and concoct false accusations. That’s right. It would be better if you stay at the Adventurer’s Guild for a while and circulate the results of the talks to the adventurers. Also, if you have the gold, you can request for the guildmaster to dispatch adventurers to escort you all for the journey home.

” ... Is it necessary to prepare to such an extent?”

“Yeah. I had been in the care of beastmen before and there are some who are close with the beastmen but it seems like there are many human supremacists within this country. Especially within the Healer’s Guild, there are many such purulent factions.”

“Thank you for your advice.”

“Don’t mention it. Well then I will leave the rest to Guildmaster. I have other matters to attend to in the church.”

“Yeah. You really saved us this time.”

“Same here. I’ve also received various reports regarding the undead. We are even. Also, I might not visit for a period of time after this so please take care. Well then everyone, if it is fated we will meet again somewhere.”

Just as I wanted to exit the room Shiela-chan, who had her vocal cords cut and can’t speak, tugged my robe and hugged me.

“Shiela-chan, you are the hero who saved everyone here. In the future too, work hard such that you do not lose to your destiny.”

Without knowing if it would work, I chanted a certain magic before leaving the room.

I did not even know that this encounter here would cause a drastic change in my life later on.

“Eh? You plan to enter the labyrinth now?”

“Yeah. Somehow knowing that the labyrinth is still here is a constant thorn at my side so fortunately I have half a year’s worth of food so I plan to stay in the labyrinth.”

“Don’t say such a foolish thing. There’s no way I will allow something like that.”

“I guess so. Even so, this time my actions would likely be noticed by evil individuals and I am afraid of being assassinated or raided so I wish to become stronger at least up to the stage where I can escape.”

” ... I will bring this up with the Pope.”

“Okay. Thank you. However, to gain resentment just by helping others, this is a scary world huh.”

“That is really true.”

“Well then please go ahead without acting reckless.”

“Yeah. I’m off.”

Thus I stepped foot into the labyrinth training ground.

Chapter 33

Specter Knight King, Mortal combat with Shisho, Luciel meets a real warrior

It will soon be 8 months since I began challenging the labyrinth.

My salary had increased across the board and for some reason the Pope had replaced Granhart-san as my boss. Even now I was in the progress of challenging the labyrinth.

“With this I feel impelled to work harder.” I finished my training and drank Object X before conducting image training for the big day tomorrow.

According to the information passed down from the Pope by Katria-san, my opponents the next day were; the man who boasted an overwhelming amount of magical power, capable of pressuring opponents using a great sword while casting healing magic, the paladin captain; and the man with overwhelming spear handling skills, the priest knight captain.

I don't dread getting slashed repeatedly by a great sword. Neither do I fear getting stabbed by a spear because of my many battles with countless adventurers.

Although it would hurt, as long as I avoid getting hit in the vitals I believe that I can heal immediately.

“However the outlook seems quite harsh.”

Among the priest knights and paladins that are divided into 4 groups each, only the Valkyrie Paladin Corps accepted my request to join their training, the remaining 7 Knight Corps treated me like a tumour. *(TL: In other words there are 4 Paladin Corps and 4 Priest Knight Corps in total)*

This was most likely due to my 3 day long volunteer service previously.

A complaint was lodged from the healer's clinic in the Holy City, but because I now directly reported to the Pope, they could not make me take responsibility. Later, they tried to make contact with me through Granhart-san and Jordo-san, but because they found that I was likely to be inside the labyrinth, they no longer attempted to do so.

Katria-san was in charge of collecting the meals from the obachans at the dining hall so they didn't become victims of this incident. But without any companions that would remark that bullying is bad, I was unlikely to be able to turn the situation around via charisma or frontal confrontation.

“In essence, the situation remains helpless. There were some who decided to ignore me but this is still an ill-natured world with assassinations and raids.”

I sighed deeply without hiding any resentment.

Should I use purification magic or 「Area High Heal」 to defeat the 2 of them? Is it wise to approach them for close combat in the first place? I was preoccupied with these insecurities floating in my mind as I trained.

I realised. In this illusionary labyrinth training ground where damage can be felt, if I died here wouldn't I experience pain similar to dying?

Not only would I turn pale looking at my dead body, I could also easily imagine the words from the Pope.

“Oh Luciel. To die here, so pathetic.”

After I resurrected, she would say those words with a straight face or maybe even with a smile. No way will I accept that.

[I would be vilified] I bitterly thought. If that happened I would lose my place in the church, even more than what I had already lost now.

From Katria-san's report, it seemed like I am hated by 2 Paladin Corps and 1 Priest Knight Corps.

I seriously considered working hard to aim for 100 friends after I cleared the labyrinth. *(TL: Lol first to get a girlfriend then now to get 100 friends. His bucket list for after clearing the labyrinth is increasing XD)*

Without being able to shake off those worldly thoughts, the day before the battle that decides my fate, I avoided a sleepless night thanks to the angel's pillow. After having a sound sleep I challenged the labyrinth.

“Body condition, good. Weapons, good. Armour, good. Magic bag, good. Applied magic, good. Mental image, good. Object X, good.”

As usual I checked my condition before the battle and gulped down Object X. I fired myself up and opened the door to the 40th floor boss room.

“As expected, it’s dark.” After muttering so, my brain froze when I saw the monster.

A strapping Specter Knight King, equipped with a set of sturdy armour, holding an stance crossing a great sword and long spear both close to 3 meters long, standing more than 50 cm taller than me, appeared. I cried out.

“Isn’t that my ideal style?”

Thus I had a chivalric duel(?) with the Spectre Knight King. *(TL: Yes the question mark is in the raw. Maybe he is having a duel with the Specter Knight King to claim the right to dress in that manner?)*

For long time after that, I continued battling with the Specter Knight King, but at that time I couldn’t think about such things at all.

Whenever the Specter Knight King swung his great sword, it was accompanied by roaring winds. If he stabbed with his spear, instead of a single stab, he could abnormally stab 3 to 5 times in a row. Undoubtedly, he was able to do so because he doesn’t have joints or muscles.

It was such a manga-like setting. More importantly, this Specter Knight King was really strong. Even so, he seemed strangely human-like.

When I attacked with purification magic and healing magic, he didn’t die and instead recovered by enveloping himself with a dark light. However, in cases when damage was done via physical attacks, he didn’t recover. I also used healing magic on myself.

“Haahaahaa, but if this continues it will be disadvantageous to me. It’s also tough without a pause button ... eh? Maybe this could work as a pause button?”

I lined up 3 barrels of Object X in a corner of the room. When I stood outside that, the Specter Knight King returned back to the center and stood still.

“What kind of third-rate comedy is this? To give him such configurations, the Pope is too evil.”

I put forth my best efforts to challenge the Specter Knight King.

I was unclear how much time had passed.

Half a year’s worth of food, half a year’s worth of Object X and the magic spell book I obtained in the labyrinth.

Without any of those I wouldn’t had survived.

With my arms slashed, my legs pierced, I experienced excruciating pain and cried out about how much this is an impossible game, but I refused to give up.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, restore him to the form he should originally have, I pray to the mysteries of life. Extra Heal.】

The spell restored my left arm that was severed together with the shield held in it, as well as my leg that was chopped up and blown away. *(TL: Omg he is a monster to still be able to concentrate with those wounds >.<)*

I forced myself to sleep using the angel's pillow and desperately ate to restore lost blood that can't be recovered with magic.

Once, I couldn't resist the temptation to cast 「Extra Heal」 on the Specter Knight King.

The Specter Knight King at that time was seriously dangerous. It was a situation like when a boss in a game has 1 HP left and breaks its limit to become 3 times stronger.

Since then, I was forced to only rely on frontal attacks. But because I'm a healer ... such feeble attacks couldn't reach him. My shield was destroyed by him so I wasn't holding on to a shield as well.

Currently, assigning the Specter Knight King as my second mentor, I continued confronting him as a wall for myself to overcome.

I believed that as long as I could damage him, even if he is a monster with the undying attribute, I can return him back to his magical origins.

I recalled what I learned from Instructor Broad over and over again, recalled about myself who continued to work hard since coming to this world because I, being a mediocre individual, could only advance one step at a time that way.

Even though he was an undead, he had overflowing chivalry like a noble protagonist from a story. Although Specter Knight King-shisho couldn't speak, I wonder if he felt my growth? *(TL: Shisho = mentor/teacher/instructor. I'll use Shisho instead of Mentor. Sounds better and gives it a more Japanese feel)*

I parried the great sword using my lance with magic channelled into it and kicked out with my left leg. While in a bent over posture, he sent the blunt end of his long spear

towards my torso. But I had anticipated that it would come. I rotated my body and did a backhand slash with my magic sword towards his undefended back.

I had seen this scene countless times. I had experienced the pain of having my body carved up countless times as well. Again and again.

I naturally felt tears flowing down.

I have no idea if the cause for that was because Shisho was going to disappear from this world forever, or from the sense of achievement of defeating Shisho, or because I could feel that I had significantly grown.

Channelling the largest amount of magical power I could into my short spear, I pierced towards Shisho's neck.

The lance released a pale light and flew towards Shisho's neck. Shisho's head flew off and his body fell backwards.

Immediately after that, Shisho's body burst, leaving behind not only a large magic stone, spell book, great sword and long spear, there were also weapons that can be said to had been created just for me, a one-handed sword and short spear, as well as Shisho's equipped helmet, gauntlets, greaves and boots. Instead of black, the armour set emitted a pale glow.

I bowed me head to Specter Knight King-shisho and thanked him from the bottom of my heart.

“Shisho, thank you very much for your guidance for such a long time.”

Thus my long and arduous battle with Shisho ended, signalled by 『Guooooo』 , the sound of the door and stairs leading downwards appearing.

“Pipe down, let me indulge in my sentiments for a while.”

Although I had not felt proper closure, I had finally cleared the 40th floor boss room. But, for whatever reason, I could not open the door behind me.

“Seriously?”

Thus, I remained trapped and could only proceed forwards into the labyrinth.

Chapter 34

**There's no time, if that's the case I'll just
do it, labyrinth capture via tricks.**

**The fang of the devil labyrinth that shook
my mental spirit.**

The new monsters that appeared from the 41st floor were undead horses, undead wolves and undead cats.

For the sake of convenience I named them as such. The undead horses had sludgy melted physiques clad in a reddish purple aura while the undead wolves howled with muffled 『OuoooOOO』 in addition to their thick bone structure, so I refused to recognize them as dogs.

Lastly, reminiscent of saber-tooth tigers, with sharp fangs and sharp claws, displaying a triangular jump when it kicks the wall reminding me of a certain soccer manga's goalkeeper, with only bones for upper body and feline-like physique, I acknowledged it as a cat.

Apart from those, there were only larger Wraiths and Specter Knights with flashing red eyes.

I visually estimated that this floor was larger by more than 1 km in all 4 directions. In this floor which was slightly wider than those up until now, I encountered no problems as I fought with never seen before monsters and advanced via brisk walking as I stayed vigilant for traps.

I advanced and opened the treasure box without encountering any battles. Due to the fact that when I entered the 40th floor my food reserve was in critical condition, I decided to use underhanded tricks to advance.

That's right. I fastened barrels filled with Object X to the robe I received from Granhart-san and advanced.

The undead that are programmed to flock towards the living, were instead running away. The flight of the animal undead was even more pronounced. I merely continued walking.

Just by advancing using my intuition, Great Luck-sensei would guide me to the treasure boxes and subsequently the stairs leading forward.

Thus I was currently enjoying my last supper in front of the 50th floor boss room.

Due to the terrible smell being emitted from barrels filled with Object X, I blocked off the path to the boss room's door and prevented monsters from approaching. After taking my last night's worth of sleep using the angel's pillow, I finished the final serving of Object X and thus both my reserves of food and Object X had been exhausted.

"I've done my best. If I fail here, it just means that this is an impossible game so I'll give up gracefully. To defeat such a cheat-like Shisho, moreover to be trapped in as well, thinking of what the Pope who made this devil-like setting would say when I resurrect makes me melancholic."

While complaining, I touched the boss room with my hand.

Instead of the usual piercing rust screech, 『Gogogogooooon』 a fierce sound resounded, unlike any that I've heard before until now.

"Last boss? I'm fired up!"

With that, the light was turned on as usual. And then the 50th floor boss figure that appeared was a Wight.

However. "That's way too big." Not the usual Wight but King? Lord? It was about that size, with a physique that gave off an impression of massiveness similar to that of Orcs that frequently appears in Fantasy worlds.

Apart from that, what made me stare wide-eyed was, on the robe covering its body, on its fingers and ears, and practically everywhere, there were people's faces protruding out.

"So disgusting."

The 50th floor boss was a Wight that had absorbed other undead, an aggregation of the undead.

I believed that the first to act would win so I charged after strengthening my body. As usual I chanted 「Area High Heal」 but ... I encountered a problem.

The boss's arm that swung out was slapped towards me.

Although I can move while chanting magic, I didn't anticipate that its attack range would be so wide and was sent flying.

“That gave me a shock. I was saved because I softened the impact by jumping to one side at once.”

However, the troublesome events continued. I have no idea if it was due to being hit, but from the arm that was hit by the boss itself, the faces couldn't withstand the attack and multiple faces splattered off.

“Your holiness, the impossible game is advancing even more.”

The splattered off faces produced flashing red eyed Specter Knights and Wraiths.

I chanted Purification and slain the stiffened Specter Knights. I was really thankful that the Darkness magic of Wraiths was ineffective.

However, my opponents were not only the enemies that were just born. As expected, the large Wight unleashed a large magic towards me.

I've seen that magic before. That's right it was the black light magic used on the 10th floor that with just a scratch causes a feeling of intense pain.

Oh shit. I casted the magic left behind by Shisho with 「Chant Termination」 .

「Sanctuary Circle」 The next instant, light rose up from the magic circle with me in the center.

My MP was greatly consumed. On the verge of MP depletion, I recovered by drinking the high grade magic potion that I had and felt the greatness of the sanctuary circle.

That colossal black light magic was extinguished the moment it touched the sanctuary and any undead that touched it dissolved.

“Such a cheat magic.” But the price for that was the consumption of 100 magical power. In addition this time I casted with 「Chant Termination」 so it took 1.5 times the magical power. And this cheat magic only lasts one minute.

Little-by-little since I entered the labyrinth, I've been accumulating P and under Katria-san's recommendations, I purchased some potions.

To be honest I didn't need them. Not only had I not need it until now, even during my battle with Shisho I could cast healing magic with breaks in between.

However, this time it was different. Without the advice from that time I would have died.

As I drank the MP potions, I slashed at the undead while casting purification magic on the boss Wight.

When the number of enemies increased, I spun a chant.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish use my magical power as sustenance, like wings of light, using a shield of purification, create a sanctuary that sears everything wicked and impure. Sanctuary Circle.】

Thus while guzzling MP potions, I used my sword and spear to defeat the monsters that came from the Wight.

Thanks to that, the large Wight gradually became smaller.

And then as a personal experiment, while spinning a chant I formed magical power outside my body.

That's right. It's the magic that I couldn't use when I just came to the church. Remote Magic Circle Chant. It was an experiment for the skill that would allow me to use magic remotely. I would be able to assign a location and create a magic circle there. The range is not only right beside me, but as long as it is within my sight.

I used 「Sanctuary Circle」 on the Wight Lord(?). *(TL: Luciel is still trying to decide on what to name the boss.)*

Written in the 「Sanctuary Circle」 spell book, it is a spell made by the gods with the hope to protect everything Holy. It extinguishes Darkness magic and burns demons and immortal monsters within and outside the barrier.

I secretly thought that it would be a better method if the magic prevents monsters from entering it but I was intrigued by the words that said that it burns those within and outside the barrier so I specified the ground below the Wight Lord(?) and casted.

At that moment, the Wight raised its death throes.

The Wight's body was being burnt by a pale flame. That instant, I was confused because I totally didn't know the meaning behind what happened next.

Maybe it was an illusion. The pale flame rapidly melted the faces covering the Wight, leaving only the Wight behind, no, it left behind a living person carrying a sacred aura like those in novels. The elderly priest smiled in my direction and whispered something.

The whispering lord disappeared. Then, I had goose bumps all over my body and I vomited violently.

That's such an awful setting. What if all the monsters that I've killed until now were elderly priests like that? As if questioning me like that, to force it on me at the final moment. What an evil, shitty setting.

While I doubted the mental health of the Pope that made this evil design, I looked at what remained as I waited for my mood and magic to recover.

"Now that I think about it, the Wraiths didn't drop any magic stones this time. Only this amazing magic stone, magic spell book and cane remains. Because it was holding a cane huh."

To be safe I applied purification before storing the cane and magic stone into my magic bag. When I picked up the spell book I saw that taboo magic was written in it.

"... Perhaps this is ..."

The contents were as expected. It's effects, chant and even why it is taboo was described in it.

I was troubled as to if I should report this to the Pope while I stored it into my magic bag.

"Eh? The usual stairs leading downwards didn't appear. Perhaps."

Like a game maybe it is set to have a magic circle for returning appear in the center? I looked around but there was nothing.

On the contrary, even the door to return had disappeared.

"I've been checkmated. Am I supposed to starve to discard my worldly desires?"

I was already at my mental limit. I sat down at that spot and fell backwards. And then I took out my angel's pillow and sulked in bed.

I had not noticed but at that moment there was a mysterious aura being emitted. Somewhere, with a feeling of gentleness, there was a large door that soundlessly emerged from the surface.

I saw the door when I woke up. It reminded me of the times when I had done something mischievous when I was young and hid in the closet. My mother would say “It’s not good to do bad things.”, lightly scolding me when she comes to get me during meal times.

Chapter 35

Breaking through the Labyrinth of Tribulations

When I had finished sulking in bed, my stamina and magical power had completely recovered.

The angel's pillow was indeed a cheat item as well. I conveyed my thanks to all the cheat item-samas.

Getting up after I stretched, I noticed that something had changed.

There was a large door. Looking at it somehow soothed my heart. It was emitting such an aura.

“... I wonder why. Although it is merely a door, maybe it's due to the aura emitted by the door, but I feel something welling up in my chest.”

I stood up and touched the door.

And then the door began absorbing my magical power.

“Tsk, return my uplifted emotions.”

I couldn't remove my hand from the door. As the magical power flowed into the door, the door gradually became saturated and a pattern was drawn on it.

I don't know how much was absorbed but right before I was completely drained, the door emitted light and opened.

“I don't wish to plant a flag here but, I guess there's a last boss behind this.”

Reluctantly, I drank magic potions to recover my MP before stepping past the door. I immediately saw that the lower floor was semi-underground.

I slowly descended. When I've reached around the midpoint, I had a bad premonition and crouched down. It wasn't because there was an attack or anything.

I couldn't advance anymore. Intuitively, within my brain, I felt that something was signaling me to stop. As proof of that, my goose bumps were standing up vigorously.

Looking at what was captured in my crouching field of view, "If this is the flag recovery that Katria-san told me about then what kind of devil is the Pope?"

An undead dragon was caught in my field of view.

There are European Dragons, Japanese Dragons and Oriental Dragons but this time it was an Oriental Dragon. (TL: ドラゴン、竜、龍. They all refer to dragons, 1st one is dragon written with katakana used for foreign languages, 2nd one is written with the Japanese character for dragons and the last one is also a Japanese character for dragons but also a Traditional Chinese character for dragons)

In this world's classification of dragons, those with wings but can't fly well due to their heavy bodies are called Japanese Dragons (竜), while those with long bodies meant for flying are Oriental Dragons (龍).

Wyverns (ワイバーン) are classified as flying Japanese Dragons (飛竜) not capable of releasing dragon breath attacks. There are other types as well but it doesn't matter at the moment.

"... Are you serious. After all that's still a dragon species. Just like in a certain game's V series, the one protecting a spear within a treasure chest found between dimensions." (TL: Any idea which game he's referring to? :X)

Half of the undead dragon was black like it had been carbonized while the other half shone with Holy Silver giving off a mysterious atmosphere.

"Is it possible for a healer to win against that? Eh? But that undead dragon ... isn't moving."

I instantly summarized the few points I took notice of.

- If I don't approach any closer, it would not attack.
- Dragons are intelligent species so there is a chance that it can speak.
- 「Sanctuary Circle」 may be able to undo the undead-fication.

I fired myself up and casted 「Remote Magic Chant」. To encompass the entire dragon's body with the magic circle and have an instantaneous effect, I drank a high grade magic potion and boosted my magical power to expand the magic circle.

I triggered 「Sanctuary Circle」 boosted with magical power.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish use my magical power as sustenance, like wings of light, using a shield of purification, create a sanctuary that sears everything wicked and impure. Sanctuary Circle.】

When Holy light appeared, the sleeping dragon stirred and violently struggled.

However, the dragon couldn't escape from 「Sanctuary Circle」. When the pale light released from the dragon's figure disappeared within the pillar of light extending up to the ceiling, 『Guooooooooo』 I heard its terrifying death throes followed by an earthshaking tremor 『Dosen』.

“Did I succeed?”

I, who easily overcame the flag, should walk towards the dragon.

My intuition told me so.

When the light subsided, the large maw of the dragon was approaching right in front of my eyes.

I would be eaten without any opportunity to avoid, ah, I'm a goner this time. I had thought so. But I didn't feel any pain.

Then, the dragon's undead black bones turned white and it looked at me before abruptly speaking.

“To defeat me with one hit, I'll give you a reward. This labyrinth is called the Labyrinth of Tribulation. Therefore, through a magic circle, I can give you a blessing. It's perfect for a cowardly person like you. You can only enter here once so it is fine if you take everything here as well.” *(TL: The dragon's speech is annoying >.< He replaces all hiragana with katakana)*

Various items like gold and silver treasures, weapons, armour, magic tools and luxury articles were there.

“You ... you won't bite me right? It is still under discussion whether the dragon species belong to the god beast or monsters.”

“Relax. This floor no longer has any evil miasma left. If you take the magic stone that is placed there, the labyrinth will disappear. What you do is totally up to you. It can be said to be a privilege reserved only for you.”

“What’s the reason for this labyrinth? What was the Pope thinking?”

“Dragon species like me are reborn once a thousand years. Those like me didn’t get reborn because the evil gods that control the demons attacked us and sealed us in places with accumulated magic.”

“Shouldn’t the heroes resolve that?”

“Unfortunately no heroes came by here. And then we who had been sealed by the evil god, due to the curse, began turning into undead.”

“I have a bad feeling about where this is going. You do know that I am a healer? Not something like a paladin?”

“Until a hero is born, for the remaining 40 years of human lifespan, I hope that you can dispel the curse placed on us by the evil god.”

“ ... Why is it that this can’t be done by somebody other than me?”

“Judging by the encompassing demonic atmosphere, the demons that are close to the Darkness attribute are becoming stronger. It is uncertain if the hero would win against the Demon Lord.”

“Maybe. If that’s the case, as somebody weak, I’ll try my best to survive. That’s all I can promise. I am neither strong, nor a foolhardy person.”

“Kukuku, to call yourself weak after defeating me, you’ve peaked my interest. I’ll give you my blessing.”

“That will be good. Eh does this mean that since coming to this world until now it has been a prologue? If that’s the case then it’s good that I passed it.”

“I have no idea what you’re saying. Young master who defeated me, what is your name.”

“Luciel. But it’s really fine, not only am I only a healer, I also don’t want to die. I’ll be glad as long as the people I know are safe.”

“Relax, it will only make it harder for you to die.”

“If that’s the case then thank you.”

“Kukuku. You are an interesting person after all. I hope that you would save my brethren.”

“I can’t promise you that. I have neither the sensitivity to do so, nor am I the protagonist of a story, let alone do I have the capability of handling that.”

“I understand. Apparently, it’s time. My corpse will not decay immediately. I offer my blessing and corpse to Luciel.”

“I’m grateful for your offer.”

“The demon forces are gradually growing stronger. Try to save my brethren if it is within the scope of your capabilities.”

“Yeah I will. Because I don’t wish to die.”

“Kukuku. I have fulfilled my role ... F ... lu ... na ... Goodbye.” *(TL: The dragon said Fuiruna with an additional ‘i’ but I think he’s referring to Fluna = The Pope’s name.)*

Thus the undead dragon’s seal was undone. So his cycle of reincarnation had restarted ... I guess?

I had a bad premonition that the labyrinth would collapse if I did so, so I left the magic stone and instead stored all the other treasures into my magic bag. I was surprised when I saw 2 magic bags among the treasures as I gathered all the magic tools. *(TL: The magic stone he left behind was the ‘Heart’ of the labyrinth. The one that once taken would stop the labyrinth from expanding)*

Next, I sorted the dragon’s corpse. The Holy Dragon’s (provisional) scales, Holy Dragon’s reverse scale *(TL: A reverse scale is said to be a legendary scale on a dragon’s throat that symbolizes a dragon’s wrath)*, Holy Dragon’s fang, Holy Dragon’s bones, and the undead dragon’s bones were stored into my magic bag.

And then, when I had stored everything into my magic bag a treasure chest appeared. Stored inside it was a spear as well as accessories.

“For a mere healer to have such a surplus of items. Well, I’m glad for the single fact that I can finally return. But.”

I think it would be good to only speak of what happened here with the Pope. Even the Pope’s attendants are out of the question. My intuition was telling me so.

When I made up my mind and jumped into the magic circle, it began glowing.

『Ping』 【Title “Blessing of the God of Healing” obtained】

『Ping』 【Title “Divine Protection of the Holy Dragon” obtained】

『Ping』 【Title “Dragon Slayer” obtained】

『Ping』 【Title “One who unleashed the seal” obtained】

『Ping』 【Due to the oath with the Holy Dragon, you will now know the location of sealed dragons】

When the light subsided, I was at the entrance to the labyrinth.

“I feel like I’ve been bewitched by a fox. Rather than that, I’ve been had by that Holy Dragon. ... I can’t even begin to feel angry with my empty stomach. Ha~ Let’s return.”

Thus I departed from the labyrinth.

(TL: The fate of Luciel to get exploited continues XD)

Side Story 5

The disappearance of Deviant Saint, An unprecedented crisis for the Church Headquarters

There were various speculations floating about in the Holy City Schull's Adventurer's Guild.

The Deviant Saint healer Luciel, while he is an E rank adventurer, he is also the only healer not driven by monetary greed.

The last day he came to the Adventurer's Guild was the Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day.

He left the Adventurer's Guild after saying that he would not return for some time.

It would soon be 8 months since that day.

In the beginning it was thought that he went on an expedition to somewhere but we never tried to confirm those facts.

There was a reason why we thought that there was no way he went on an expedition.

That's right. It's because of Object X. Object X is extraordinarily bad.

For that reason every year, in the Adventurer's Guild Headquarters, the Adventurer's Guild that drinks the most Object X would be given a luxurious gift from the late sage and the late Adventurer's Guild Headquarter's guildmaster. *(TL: So that's why Grulga-san and Broad-san force fed Luciel Object X hahah)*

The rankings could be viewed in all the Adventurer's Guilds and there was an advanced technique in place to not count in any fraud such as discarding Object X.

Returning to the topic, there hasn't been anybody who continued drinking Object X in recent years. But in the town of Meratoni it was being rapidly consumed ...

That's right. It became something like an indicator of where Luciel was at. However, even though he drank it every time, he no longer came to drink Object X.

Normally this would not be a cause for concern.

However because the Deviant Saint stopped coming over, the healer's clinic became arrogant and continued to raise their prices.

There was a petition aimed at the Healer's Guild Church Headquarters but it didn't reach the Pope.

Was the Deviant Saint imprisoned in the church?

Was he being subjected to torture?

Was he only not given Object X?

Distrust in the church gradually increased, resulting in a push for a movement to save the Deviant Saint.

On the other hand, the church began feeling worried because Luciel, who had always returned every week, had not returned.

Even though Luciel had not returned, for about one month they remained optimistic.

They believed that their close acquaintance would return.

However, he did not return even after 3 months.

The Pope as well as Katria ... previously known as the captain of knights Catherine Freya (*TL: The author misspelled the name :X it's different from SS4*), wished to select a rescue squad, but to send in the church's knight squad just for one healer ... The notion of dismissed.

Instead, there was even a motion to clamp down on Luciel who was said to be overconfident and advanced excessively into the labyrinth.

Including the Pope, Katria and the Valkyrie Paladin Corp defended Luciel's name which prevented Luciel from getting slapped with a penalty.

However the others who did not consider Luciel favorably had completely abandoned him, assuming that he explored the labyrinth to gain honor.

After half a year had passed, there was a request to verify Luciel's survival.

However, the church refused to release any formal response.

But, there was a squad that finally decided to make a move. The Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

They forcibly dragged along the predecessor Jordo and entered the labyrinth.

Many zombies and skeletons appeared in the 10th floor boss room but those were not a match for them.

In fact at that moment, Luciel had finally reached the end of his battle with the Specter Knight King. Neither Luciel nor Lumina and the girls knew that labyrinth's boss rooms were in fact linked.

As Luciel lamented about the fact that he could only proceed forward and left the boss room, the Valkyrie Paladin Corps had finally collected all the magic stones and once again advanced further inwards as well. *(TL: Lol so the reason why Luciel couldn't go back was because of them >.<)*

However, the stench became stronger as they descended further down the floors and they encountered Wraiths that specializes in mental attacks when they reached the 30th floor. The number of injuries further increased so the Valkyrie Paladin Corps deemed that the search could no longer continue and returned.

When Lumina and the girls had returned and were giving their report, an urgent notice arrived.

Meratoni's adventurers led by the Adventurer's Guild guildmaster Whirlwind, Holy City's adventurers led by Holy City Schull Adventurer's Guild guildmaster Granz as well as people who felt indebted to the Deviant Saint had surrounded the Holy City Schull's Church Headquarters.

'Release the Deviant Saint healer Luciel.' 'Hammer the scrooges.' Carrying such slogans, people gathered one after another.

An unprecedented demonstration against the church was going to happen.

It was clear to the eyes that a riot would occur if the church responded wrongly.

Luciel had no idea that a riot was on the verge of breaking out, as the 108 Paladins and Priest Knights who lazed around in the church daily cowered in fear from the demonstration of 380 adventurers who pour all their efforts into battling monsters as well as more than 500 residents.

Within all that, the clueless Luciel who had broken through the labyrinth had no idea that he would once again face death immediately after escaping from the labyrinth.

Chapter 36

Once again, the combination of Masochistic Zombie and Devil Mentor

I've returned from the labyrinth!! I sealed my thoughts of shouting that out loud as I placed my hand on the door to the shop and opened it.

Immediately upon doing so, a silver wire flew towards my neck. I believe that I was able to react in time at that instant because my mind was still tense from staying in the labyrinth for so long.

『Gakiiin』 Katria-san stared at me with a surprised expression as the silver wire struck the shield I retrieved from my magic bag at that split second.

The next instant, I tumbled backwards down the stairs.

I had no idea how many synapses I lost from that but my head hurt so bad that I immediately applied 「Heal」 .

“That hurts. More importantly, I almost died?”

The next moment Katria-san did a flying body attack ... or so I thought but instead she hugged me.

“Wha ... wha ... what's the matter Katria-san?”

I thought that I wouldn't stutter. I had always thought that the stuttering done by novel protagonists invokes an impression of a lucky pervert character.

However, because I had almost died and was suddenly hugged by her, the confusion broke my limit so I panicked and stuttered.

“So you're alive after all.”

“Yeah. The 40th floor boss was a warrior-like monster. Going by feeling, I think I spent multiple months to defeat it. I planned to return after that but this time I couldn't open the door leading back so I could only advance forward.”

“Thank god you’re safe ... wait now is not the time for this. Hurry, go to the Pope ... No, go outside the church and stop the adventurers.”

” ... ???”

I was dragged along by Katria-san to the magic elevator, left the church residential space and got off at the information desk. I immediately discovered a nostalgic face.

“Eh? Instructor Broad, Grulga-san, and even Garba-san, what brings you all here? Eh, even guildmaster is here, did something happen? If there is anything I can do to help I’ll cooperate?”

“”””” ... “””””

” ? ”

” ... Luciel, do you no longer feel like living?”

“Ku, thank god.”

“Hahaha, where have you been and what have you been doing?”

“Hey people from Meratoni! I’ll let the people outside waiting for him know. Hey Deviant Saint, make sure to show your face later at the Adventurer’s Guild.”

“Eh? Ah, yes.”

After my reply, guildmaster went outside.

“And so everybody what happened? Ah, did you all come to visit me? I’m happy to hear that.”

” ... You ... ha~”

“Well Luciel as a person slightly ... no, considerably deviates from the norm.”

“Fufufu, and so? Where have you been and what have you been doing?”

Just as I wanted to speak immense cheers were raised outside. Was there a festival today?

“Is there something like a festival going on today?”

The three of them and Katria-san, even the receptionist held their heads in exasperation ... Hmm. I’ll answer the question for now.

“Erm, I’ve been undergoing virtual training against the undead in the location prepared by the church. But I became too complacent and due to some defects I was confined within, so I thought that I might as well use this opportunity to train and continued advancing forward. I only returned just now.”

『Gan』 Instructor Broad suddenly appeared beside me and his fist fell on my head.

“Ouch, Instructor Broad, you appear the same as always? Even so I believe that I have grown.”

I said as my eyes turned watery.

“Hmph. Even though you are my disciple, you are a disciple with no talent. You are a 100 years too early to be able to avoid my attacks. You even made me worry because you became complacent.”

“No way~ Well anyway Grulga-san, I’m so hungry that I’m going to collapse anytime soon. Please make something for me.”

“Kukuku, gahaha. Very well. I’ll prepare something for you. Well then let’s go to the Adventurer’s Guild. Hey miss. We’ll be borrowing this kid.”

” ... Yeah. I’ll be troubled if he doesn’t report but for now it would be better to let you do so.”

“Yup yup. Thankfully you are somebody who can easily understand, miss.”

“Ah Katria-san. Please inform the Pope that I had somehow escaped from the labyrinth and will report to her highness later, and that I have a matter that I wish to consult her.”

“Understood.”

“Okay~ Let’s go.”

“Instructor Broad? There’s no need to pull my neck, Garba-san why are you holding on to my legs? Grulga-san as well there’s no need to hold on to my waist, if we walk down the street like this another strange rumour will start ...”

“Don’t worry, Deviant Saint Knight-sama. Fufufu.”

“That’s right. Deviant Saint Healer-sama. Kukuku.”

“Hey stop struggling. There will definitely be a new nickname so don’t worry.”

“Nooooooooooooo”

Thus just like that, I was carried flat on my back along the streets of the Holy City like a human portable shrine all the way to the Adventurer's Guild.

Meanwhile on the other side, with the report from Katria, including the Pope, the forces who did not think well of Luciel showed expressions of relief.

Fundamentally, knights are strong but that does not mean that they have absolute power. Furthermore, the priests, high priests, bishops and archbishops are not people born from the battlefield.

Due to that, looking at the scene whereby the church was surrounded, those who thought of their own death was not restricted to only one or two of them.

From this incident, the individuals who experienced the real horror of Luciel began scheming to either further get closer to their own factions, to not act hostile towards him or to keep a distance no matter what.

While I had no idea what was happening behind the scenes, I was also oblivious to the blessing from Great Luck-sensei who dispersed the hostile forces. I ate the food made by Grulga-san and guildmaster and was made to drink Object X.

And then, the people who could not afford to go to the healer's clinic overflowed into the Adventurer's Guild. The Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day was revived.

"I was caught off guard just now but I had worked hard to surpass Instructor Broad. I will not hold back."

"Che, you're becoming cheeky, who was the one who taught you how to use the sword and spear in the beginning."

"I will answer that in the mock battle."

"Hurry up and come attack me."

"Here I come."

I poured all I had into strengthening my body before approaching with a upward slash from below using the sword held in my right hand while I pierced the ground using the spear held in my left to pivot my kick.

The next instant, I was lying on the training ground. Huh? It was completely different from what I had in mind.

"Well although you've come to have a decent form, did you think that you have grown stronger?"

“I’m sorry.”

“Stand up. I’ll retrain your mistaken spirit.”

“Yes sir!”

None of the adventurers who saw the sight of me confronting Instructor Broad again and again circulated it around ... or so I thought.

Word was that the urban legend of the masochistic zombie healer that suddenly appeared in the town of Meratoni was actually real.

The adventurers knew. Broad was the SS rank Whirlwind who had entered his name into the realm of legends.

Besides, to be able to advance forward over and over again without breaking, like a zombie programmed to gravitate towards the living, all the adventurers who saw that scene decided on a new nickname.

‘The Living Zombie’ I only knew of this slightly later.

“Until when do you plan to lay there. I’ll cut your arm off.”

“Hiiiiiii, prepare yourself, Guueeee.”

“Hoh. To be able to afford the energy to act out such a performance, looks like you have become slightly tougher. If so, then I won’t hold back anymore.”

“Gyaaaaaaaaa”

Thus, relishing the scene just like in Meratoni’s Adventurer’s Guild, everyone felt relieved from the bottom of their hearts that the Deviant Saint had returned.

Chapter 37

Tell me that it's a lie.

Luciel, finds out the truth to his hallucinations

Yesterday, after they had contributed to the bustling activity in the Adventurer's guild, the adventurers, formed just like an army, began their journey back to Meratoni from the Holy City.

Looking at that spectacle, I was caught between feeling thankful and feeling apologetic as I received warm parting words from the adventurers.

"If anything happens again, I'll come running."

"Luciel, I'm glad that you are alive."

"There will be a masochist convention next time so come join us if you want to."

"You are the only one who can eliminate Broad-san's stress."

"I've cheated on my wife but I will try to not give up and apologize just like you."

"Only true adventurers return their favours."

"I'll have you treat me if I get injured again."

"Don't think that you are the only one that is growing. When you come to Meratoni, have a few mock battles with us as well."

Some of the statements in the middle ... no I won't comment on them. I went to say my farewells to Instructor Broad, Grulga-san and Garba-san before they departed towards Meratoni but as expected, they advanced the conversation with a sentence at a time each without waiting for any reply from me.

"Hey listen up Luciel. No, foolish disciple. You have this many people who care about you. I've said it yesterday but you are weak. Be aware of that."

“I understand.”

“Hey hey Broad, leave it at that. If not, he won't return to Meratoni.”

” ... Nuuu.”

“No, he'll return ... He'll return so stop glaring at me.”

“Luciel, the next time you come to Meratoni I'll train you as well. My style of combat fits the cowardly you more anyway.”

“Hey Garba, are you intending to steal my disciple?”

“Hahaha. Well the person who decides that is Luciel.”

“Anyway when you come to Meratoni, bring along at least one girlfriend.”

“Eh ... girlfriend?”

“Luciel. When you have a boy, I can then train him.”

“Yes yes. Luciel-kun is already of that age so think about it.”

“If you have a daughter instead then I can teach her my cooking.”

“Hey there, Grulga don't you cut in as well and Broad don't ride along with him. Well if you find yourself unable to stay in the Church Headquarters anymore come to the Adventurer's Guild in Meratoni. For you, that is the best safe zone.”

“Thank you. If I reach a position that allows me to wander about, I'll come to Meratoni at least once. Also ...”

To these 3 people, it would be better to tell them clearly.

“It's not like the simple Luciel to look so serious.”

“What is it? Is there something?”

“What's wrong, disciple?”

I believed that they were my allies so I could tell them.

“From now on the demons will increase in activity. The hero will not be born for dozens for years but before that there is a high chance that the demon race's strength will increase due to the influence from the evil god. All three of you, please be careful.”

“Hoh. Did the church receive information regarding that as well?”

“As expected of the church to have sharp ears on par with us.”

“You are a 100 years too young to be worried about us. Instead of us, now you should worry about yourself. The next time if anything happens, keep in contact with us properly. If we have many injured personnel, we’ll send in a request to the church to let us have you so don’t worry.”

“I’d worry even more if that happens.”

Just like that I easily believed them. I felt that I would never be able to win against the 3 of them who worry for me in a lifetime. I sent them off before returning to the church.

Returning to the church, just as I wanted to step into the magic-driven elevator, the receptionist called out to me.

“Luciel-sama, please wait a moment.”

Oh? It’s quite rare that the receptionist calls out to me.

“Yes, can I help?”

“I received a message to ask you to find Catherine-sama when you return.”

“But I don’t know anybody called Catherine-san?”

Eh? Why? What’s with that ‘Oh shit’ expression?

“Excuse me. It is Katria-sama from yesterday.”

“Ah. Katria-san ... I’m sorry. I have no idea where she usually is and neither do I know where her room is at?”

“Ah if that’s the case then please wait a moment. I’ll contact her for you immediately.”

And then, just like when I initially came to the church, she closed her eyes while holding a crystal ball-like item.

But pulling an all-nighter was really bad. Even though my body was still young, I still felt sleepy. As I yawned greatly while waiting, somebody appeared gallantly.

“Luciel-kun, so you were alive.”

My sleepiness was blown away at once. Because the person who came to get me was Lumina-san. Why is it that she only sees me when I’m doing something weird?

“I would like to talk but we’ll have to go immediately.”

As Lumina-san and I walked towards the Pope’s room, she praised me for staying alive.

『Kon kon kon』

“Valkyrie Paladin Corps captain Lumina here. I have brought the exorcist Luciel.”

“Enter.”

I entered through the middle of the opened door and hung my head while bending on one knee.

“Exorcist Luciel, welcome back.”

“Yes! I apologize for making you worry.”

“No worries. Originally we would have rescued you but there were many who were against it and moreover Wraiths appeared in the 30th floor onward so we had to give up on the rescue.”

“It is okay, I think that that is natural.”

“It helps me if you say it that way. However, why did you not return for over half a year?”

(Eh? Did she not know that a bug happened? So that’s why. If she was monitoring me then she would have come to rescue me.)

“Yes. The truth is the boss that appeared on the 40th floor was a Specter Knight that was larger than usual. It could also ridiculously completely recover every time from any purification magic or healing magic I cast on it ... There was only 1 method, it did not recover any wounds it received from physical attacks. Which was why I battled countless times while treating my wounds with healing magic. I have no idea if it was due to my good luck but when I tried to use Object X as a barricade, it succeeded in making it stay away from me. From then on, I battled again and again, healing my legs that were blown off or arms that had been slashed, taking my meals and getting some sleep, as I drew out countless strategies and tried them out repeatedly via trial and error. I desperately ate to regenerate my lost blood that can’t be recovered using healing magic while I looked for its weakness, but I am not a genuine warrior so I could only naively charge forwards. I have no idea how long I fought for but I somehow defeated it.”

Oops, I was getting a little too passionate. When I noticed everyone looking at me I suddenly felt embarrassed.

” ... That is tremendous. And so why couldn't you return after such a long period?”

“Ah~ I wanted to return after defeating it but when I tried to go back the way I came from, I couldn't open the door so I could only proceed onwards to the 50th floor. After defeating the 50th floor boss, I could finally return. For the specific details, I apologize but I cannot tell it to anybody other than Your Holiness, Katria-sama and Lumina-sama.”

” ... Umu. There's no helping it if there's something sensitive. Everybody else leave.”

I thought that there would be somewhat of a dispute regarding this, but the attendants, and others who look like archbishops?, bishops? obediently left the Pope's room.

Including me, only 4 people remained in the Pope's room.

“And so? Do you have a decent reason for clearing out the room?”

Even though her figure was hidden, I somehow felt a vigilant atmosphere from the Pope.

“Yes. The 50th floor boss ... I was surprised by it in the main room. An enormous Wight attacked me and the blood that flowed from it gave rise to monsters.”

“Was it possibly a Specter Magician?”

“Yes. It was somewhat like that configuration? I somehow defeated it using 「Sanctuary Circle」, but at the very end, I had not expected it to cast an illusion of the Wight becoming an elderly man which attacked my mental spirit.”

” ... Elderly man.”

Eh? Was it not an elderly man? Katria-san and Lumina-san were stunned and staring at my direction. Ah, was I too frank with my words?

“Putting aside the hallucinations, it is fairly difficult for a new healer to clear that labyrinth. I was fearful that any moment I would hear the words of resurrection after getting game over.”

However, it should be alright for me to claim that I had cleared the illusionary labyrinth now right? Even though it is true that it had amazing quality, I had really worked hard for it?

“Game over? What do you mean by resurrection?”

Eh? Ah. There isn't any games in this world. Instead of resurrection, I have no idea what word they use for it.

"Your holiness, I've cleared the labyrinth so there's no longer any need to continue acting? There's also something else I'd like to say. That Holy Dragon that appeared in the end, I was really surprised."

"Elderly man, Holy Dragon, maybe ..."

"It was regarding the reincarnation dragons that were sealed by the evil god. A setting that would have me release the sealed dragons within the next 40 years."

" ... Katria, Lumina. I forbid you from revealing anything that Luciel had just said."

"Yes!"

" ... And so, what did the dragon say?"

"Erm, if the sealed dragons are not released, the demonic element would become closer to the Darkness and gradually become stronger. The hero that would be born might lose to the demons. I would say that it's a great setting."

" ... What are you talking about. This ... wait, did it say anything else?"

"It asked me, a healer, to do whatever I can within my capabilities. Also, I did not retrieve the final magic stone within the labyrinth because I felt that it was a trap."

" ... Luciel. Since just now there has been a few things that bothered me, could I ask about those?"

"Yeah. Of course."

Is it if I enjoyed the labyrinth? Or my approach to face the bad smell? The monster arrangement for the next labyrinth?

"Firstly, what do you mean by illusion?"

"Eh? Starting with that? Well that is important coming from the maker's point of view. The quality of monsters beginning from the 1st floor was high. However, it is a shame that there wasn't any discomfort when receiving attacks nor was there any feedback when attacking with a sword or spear."

" ... Lumina, what were your thoughts when you dived?"

"There was feedback when slashing but when magical power was channelled, I felt that they immediately returned to the demonic element of the labyrinth."

“Apart from that the quality was high. There was a sense of pain, especially the 40th floor knight setting, did Your Holiness set them yourself? Ah, the weapons used by that knight, the greatsword and long spear, can I take them out?”

“Yes.”

“This is the problem. Although the illusions was impressive to allow this greatsword to cleave through the shield and the arm holding on to it, and this spear to blow away the leg into fragments, usually the shock would be too great causing the person to faint or die. It is devilish to set such a strong monster ... you have no idea how many times I thought of that.”

“These very two are ... and within that report I want to doubt my ears but how many pairs of arms and legs do you have? And the magic you used in the 50th floor ... did you say 「Sanctuary Circle」 ?”

“Yes. I luckily obtained the magic spell book for 「Extra Heal」 on the 39th floor, following that the previously mentioned 40th floor boss dropped the 「Sanctuary Circle」 spell book, and remarkably, I had no chance to use it yet, but the 50th floor boss dropped the taboo magic 「Revival」 when I defeated it. There is a chance that I would not use this in a lifetime so it would gather dust within my magic bag ... time is frozen in it so I guess that would not happen, but I guess I would not take it out into this world.”

” ... Katria, Lumina, I forbid you from revealing anything you’ve heard today.”

“”Yes!””

“So, Luciel, I would have you take out everything you collected in the boss rooms. Of course including those obtained from the dragon as well. It is necessary to inspect them. Of course all the items belong to you, but there might be some items that I would like you to hand over to me.”

“Well I guessed it would come to this. Since they were items that were planted by Your Holiness for the labyrinth capture.”

“You’ve been talking about illusions since just now but I did not place these items and the undead are real monsters.”

“No way, if they were real monsters then wouldn’t my level rise? I had not risen by even one level. Without that I would have believed it.”

” ... How?! ... Show us your status.”

“Eh? There are no changes anyway. Status open.”

Name:	Luciel	LV:	1
Job:	Healer IX (4↑)	HP:	840 (420↑)
	Holy Dragon Knight I	MP:	550 (390↑)
Age:	18	ST:	580 (400↑)
STR:	142 (69↑)	INT:	158 (50↑)
VIT:	163 (52↑)	MGI:	182 (75↑)
DEX:	137 (61↑)	RMG:	174 (74↑)
AGI:	129 (56↑)	SP:	0
Magic Aptitude:	Holy		
【Skills】			
「Appraisal－」		「Parallel Thinking IV」 (2↑)	
「Great luck－」		「Chant Shortening V」 (1↑)	
「Taijutsu VI」 (1↑)		「Chant Termination III」 (2↑)	
「Magic Power Control IX 」 (2↑)		「No Chant I」	
「Magic Power Manipulation IX」 (2↑)		「Magic Circle III」	
「Holy Magic IX」 (2↑)		「Sword Mastery IV」 (2↑)	
「Meditation VII」 (2↑)		「Shield Mastery III」 (2↑)	
「Concentration VIII」 (1↑)		「Spear Mastery IV」 (2↑)	
「HP Recovery VII」 (3↑)		「Archery I」	
「MP Recovery VIII」 (2↑)		「Presence Perception V」	
「Stamina Recovery VII」 (2↑)		「Twin Spear Sword Technique III」	
「Throwing V」 (1↑)		「Trap Sensing II」	
「Dismantling II」		「Trap Detection I」	
「Danger Perception VI」 (2↑)		「Cartography III」	
「Footwork VI」 (2↑)		「Magical Power Amplification III」	
「Body Strengthening II」		「Thought Acceleration II」	
「HP Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)		「MP Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)	
「ST Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)		「STR Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)	
「VIT Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)		「DEX Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)	
「AGI Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)		「INT Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)	
「MGI Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)		「RMG Increased Rate of Growth VIII」 (2↑)	

「Physical Ability Increased Rate of Growth I」	
「Poison Resistance VIII」 (2↑)	「Weakness Resistance VIII」 (2↑)
「Paralysis Resistance VIII」 (2↑)	「Seal Resistance VIII」 (2↑)
「Petrification Resistance VIII」 (2↑)	「Disease Resistance VIII」 (2↑)
「Sleep Resistance VIII」 (2↑)	「Blunt Damage Resistance VI」 (2↑)
「Charm Resistance V」 (3↑)	「Daze Resistance VI」 (3↑)
「Curse Resistance VIII」 (2↑)	「Mental Resistance VIII」 (7↑)
「Slash Resistance V」	「Pierce Resistance IV」
【Titles】	
「Altered Destiny」	(All status +10)
「God of Destiny's blessing」	(Increased SP acquisition)
「Blessing of the God of Healing」	(Potency of Holy attribute healing magic increased by 1.5 times)
「Divine Protection of the Holy Dragon」	(Become a Holy Dragon Knight, increase in combat skills and status. It is now possible to converse with the dragon race)
「Dragon Slayer」	(Become stronger in attack and defence against dragons)
「One who unleashed the seal」	(Immune to the curse of the evil god. Capable of obtaining the power of sealed dragons)

“See, I’m still level 1.”

“But your job increased, and do you think that is the status of a level 1?”

“It is true that my status have increased across the board, but if you insist on that, then why does my level not increase?”

I refuted it. It is true that my status have increased but I would still be instantly killed by Broad-san so I am not that strong.

” ... Katria, show this to Luciel.”

Katria-san retrieved an old book from the Pope and she passed it to me.

“This is?”

“The original literature for God’s Grief a.k.a. Object X. Read it.”

Various discussions were recorded within the document. Among those, there were several possibilities written.

Written among the discussions regarding body level, it had been confirmed as a demerit that when drinking it the individual would find it very difficult to level up.

Moreover, because there wasn't anybody who continued drinking it, he hoped that someday somebody who could do so would appear so that he could conduct a detailed study.

That was written in the conclusion at the very end of the literature.

” ... Erm, eh? I can't find the proper words. Hahaha. Eh, but?”

“Luciel-kun, calm down.”

“Luciel-kun, it's okay, you are still alive and present here.”

“Surely you didn't think that it was really all an illusion.”

I was supported at both sides by Katria-san and Lumina-san until I calmed down. I remained in that posture all the way until I settled my confused state of mind.

At that time I really didn't have any spare room to consider the fragrant scent from the two ladies nor the way they attended me from both sides. Even the posture that I was in, I didn't feel anything at all.

When I retrieved the items from my magic bag after I had calmed down, the Pope only collected the 40th floor boss's greatsword and long spear, as well as the 50th floor boss's cane.

The magic spell books became my belongings and I complied when she requested permission to copy them, except for 「Revival」, at a later date.

The 40th floor boss's equipment and the equipment left behind by the Holy Dragon were returned to me and they became my dedicated equipment, as nobody else could handle them.

In addition the magic bags, I did not need them because I would not have a chance to use them, but apparently the labyrinth magic bags could be bought with white gold coins.

“Regarding the Holy Dragon bones obtained after applying purification on the undead dragon, is it possible for you to hand some of them over to me?”

“Yeah. If I’m the only person who can use the Holy bones from the Holy Dragon, then others can use the parts that turned into undead? However Your Holiness, please only use them for the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and former knight captain Catherine.”

“Understood. The celebrations for clearing the labyrinth would be held a week from now, you will be required to attend as the guest of honour.”

“Understood.”

“Katria and Lumina remain behind, we will carry out a discussion regarding future measures.”

“”Yes!””

“Luciel you have achieved a great cause. I am glad that you returned safely.”

“Yes! Thank you.”

Even though I had lack of sleep and was in a state of turmoil, I thought about how dangerous were the things that I had done as I returned to my room.

Normally I wouldn’t be able to sleep at this timing, but thanks to the Angel’s Pillow cheat item, I was able to get a deep and peaceful sleep.

(TL: This chapter most likely answered a lot of the speculations you all had up until now. So it really was Object X. and Luciel finally got to keep the spoils of war from his hard fought boss battles and labyrinth dive!)

Chapter 38

S-class healer-cum-exorcist,

Luciel's declaration

Do you know the feeling? Of getting commended?

Do you know the feeling? To be placed among people who practically do not know you and are hostile towards you?

Do you know the feeling? The pressure from those older than you that feels like blood thirst when you became successful when you are young?

In my previous life I also gave a speech when I got promoted.

It begins with a set of phrases to thank your superiors, followed by words of gratitude to those around you who supported you. And then you can either narrate the road to your success in an interesting way, or you can describe the hard work you had put in. Following that you declare your next goal, before ending off by thanking everyone once again.

Well in my case my superior is Granhart-dono, who interrogated me and gave me my magic-driven elevator card and robe distributed to all guild headquarter's staffs.

Also, Jordo-dono showed me how to defeat monsters using purification magic in actual combat, and I found out that he had not entered the 10th floor boss room before so he did not have any obligation to give advice to me.

The Valkyrie Paladin Corps led by Lumina-san let me join their training but that is pretty much all I can say about them. She was a strict ally but I would like to thank Katria-san for her advice and also Obachan for the bentos.

After that would be the cheat items, magic bag and Angel's Pillow, from the Pope. Without them I would not be in this position.

I would also add on a word of gratitude for the omnipresent guidance from Object X-sama and Great Luck-sensei.

I came to this world because I wanted to be successful. That part is fine.

But, even though I put in effort so that I wouldn't die, I have no idea why my battles became more and more intense.

I calculated that if I stood with strong individuals, I would not die.

I calculated that if I had more close friends, I would be able to walk a path distanced from death.

Even though, I had calculated that if I stayed in contact with Instructor Broad whom I respect and Grulga-san and others such a life would naturally happen and that such a life would not be so bad ...

Maybe the God of Destiny was angered that I had grasped a calculated secure lifestyle, and chose to place me in a place with no allies this time around.

This time I no longer tried to be calculative ... That's my plan.

People who cherish me appeared as I progressed into the labyrinth and gave treatment in the Adventurer's Guild.

Just like in my previous life, I performed virtuous deeds not solely for the sake of others.

That's why I used charity work as a front to save those without money. I believe that my kindness would be returned someday.

I poured my heart and soul into my work. In the beginning I didn't do so ... but that is how it normally should be.

And yet, God, why is this place with so many enemies in front of me, my workplace?

“The activity of the long-existing labyrinth has been stopped. That is because the exorcist healer Luciel here broke through to the deepest part of the labyrinth. In the mean time, the accumulated demonic essence within the labyrinth would still cause monsters to appear, but one day monsters would stop spawning. From today onwards, the Knight Corps would oversee the periodic subjugation of the labyrinth. I hope that each of you will work hard daily to brainstorm methods to do so. Well then, for the reward for this achievement, I appoint Luciel as a S-rank healer, with the position to give guidance within and outside the church headquarters, and have the same rank as a bishop. Also, in addition to the right to refuse any command from anybody other than me, I reward him with the opportunity to use my name, Fluna Aryudeli de Schull, for a declaration. So S-rank healer Luciel, a word please.”

Your Holiness, why are you giving me a gaze that looks like you are expecting something? Ha~ ... my stomach hurts. I want to stay in the sky in an airship forever to prevent from getting assassinated. Although there isn't airships in this world ...

Do you know the feeling? My feeling of having no choice but to say something now. No idea? Guess so.

... Great Luck-sensei, I wish for a safe life.

“As introduced, entrusted with the great task of S-rank healer, I am the S-rank healer-cum-exorcist Luciel. I am still a fledgling so I am not an interesting existence to everyone. That is natural because my only achievement is to have captured the labyrinth. But, this uninteresting fledgling wants to say something uninteresting here. I have only become a healer for 3 and a half years but the authority of the church is already on the brink of collapse.”

The audience became noisy and the thirst for blood was amazing. The Pope, Katria-san and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps answered with a smile. Was this what you all were plotting for? Well then where shall I step in to continue.

“The reason why we are at the brink of collapse, is firstly because of the treatment policy set by arrogant healers. I heard that when the Healer's Guild was first established, treatment could be paid for using food and other items instead of only using money. That's right. It was a wonderful guild founded by a saintly gentleman. However, those with the profession of healers would never be able to live in abundance like that. With patients who complain about the treatment after it is done, nobody would consent to becoming a healer. Just as I have described, I do not have any problems with regards to healers charging money for treatment. There are many who have high aspirations and earnestly provide healing among all of you present here and among those who are active around the world. But then why are healers believed to be greedy? Because there has not been any progress in the establishment of a law. Hence, I hereby declare the creation of a guideline for treatment charges, in hopes that it would deal a crippling blow to the impression that the healer's clinics are only in it to make money. I have gained the consent of the Pope and all 10 archbishops. Subsequently, with regards to the paladins and priest knights, there will be an investigation done if any cases of corruption is found to have happened. In addition to dismissal from employment, this act is a breach of trust towards the job bestowed by the Chief God Kureiya-sama, so the person involved will be demoted into a knight. Hereafter, I hope everyone will brainstorm methods to resurrect the church's prestige, so that the church can one day stand on its own authority. I will also do so for the sake of the church. I hereby pledge my commitment to this lifetime goal. Thank you very much for your kind attention.”

“Thank you for the speech. Originally the celebration for the S-rank healer Luciel would end here, but today I would also like to announce a new personnel. I will now

dissolve Katria from her current appointment and declare that she will be reinstated as the Knight Corps captain Catherine Freya. The reason why I reinstate Catherine is unrelated to everyone here, but just in case there are some of you who do not know the reason why, we have already scrutinized all the injustice and corruption that had been rampant within the church, and have punished all those who were involved. From today onward we will expand the scope of investigation so I hope that you all will work together with us to make the church prosper once again. I beg of you.”

Although the Pope is never supposed to lower her head to others, everyone present in the ceremony saluted all at once.

Thus my promotion? rise in rank? to S-rank was decided. I prayed to the Chief God Kureiya, the God of Destiny, the God of Healing and my ancestors that this place full of my enemies improves for the better.